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USSR ARMS PROPOSAL BASIS FOR 'FAIR ACCORD'

PM162045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Editorial Article: "Stuck Fast"]

[Text] Another round of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations on limiting and reducing strategic arms is being held in Geneva. The world public, which earlier already felt disappointment with the fruitless outcome -- owing to the non-constructive stand of the USA -- of the previous rounds, is asking this question: Is there progress this time? Did Washington, at last, abandon attempts at legalizing its unprecendented arms race under the cover of the talks? Unfortunately, there is as yet only one answer to this question: The state of affairs at the talks, like before, does not inspire optimism. It remains wedged as a result of persisting unwillingness of the present U.S. leadership to conduct negotiations on the basis of the principle of parity and equal security. Whatever the verbal assurances to the contrary Washington resorts to, pretending that it "moves on" from its unacceptable positions and even shows some "flexibility," the fact remains that the U.S. approach to the talks has not undergone any changes.

This approach, like before, is one-sided and is aimed at achieving balance. It is significant that even some U.S. experts in the field of arms limitation began calling it "typical" of the tactics of the Reagan administration to make such proposals at the talks which are obviously unacceptable to the other side.

The current round is no exception in this sense. All the initial positions of the United States remain immobile this time as if stuck in concrete.

A tactical gliding of the U.S. side around some important problems brought up at the talks does not change the picture. Moreover, hidden behind this is, as a rule, a desire under the guise of ostentatious "flexibility" to put through such positions which have nothing in common with arms limitation.

When the United States needed, say, to ensure the deployment in the future of another new type of inter-continental ballistic missiles "Midgetman" -- in addition to the newest ICBM "MX" which are to add not less than 1,000 high-yield warheads to the U.S. nuclear arsenal, the U.S. delegation in Geneva immediately stated readiness to "adjust" its position. It would not now be against raising the level of 850 units for deployed land-based and sea-launched ballistic missiles, which was earlier suggested by the U.S. side And this is being presented as "flexibility." In actual fact they try to open yet another channel of the strategic arms race.

There was a good deal of propagandist hullabaloo around readiness declared by the U.S. side to establish a ceiling of 5,000 warheads on strategic missiles of the USSR and the U.S.A. It was referred to as being so "radical" and "bold." But it is being passed over in silence that, apart from these 5,000 warheads, the Pentagon is planning to deploy more than 12,000 cruise missiles of various basic modes. So, it turns out that this entire "radicalness" is just pulling the wool over the eyes.

Washington fully sticks to the unacceptable selective approach to reduction of strategic armaments of the sides. The Soviet strategic systems, particularly their basis--ICBM, would be sharply reduced, while the American strategic systems would not be at all reduced, but would be built up in every way.

This double standard clearly manifests itself in the American counting bombers within the overall balance of strategic armaments. Rejecting the proved comprehensive method of limiting and reducing all strategic arms--ICBM's, SLBM's, and heavy bombers--and also seeking the reorganization of the structure of the USSR's strategic forces, the United States stubbornly insists that strategic bombers should be made a separate category of "slow flying" means.

What is the covert meaning here? Above all, the United States would like to fix its multiple superiority in that type of strategic delivery vehicles on which, besides, it would deploy--beyond the aggregate level of nuclear warheads--at least 8,000 long-range air-based cruise missiles. Simultaneously Washington makes the absurd demand that medium TU-22M, which are called in the West "Backfire" bombers, should be counted among strategic bombers of the Soviet side. In addition, the United States categorically objects to any counting nuclear armaments (bombs and missiles) on heavy bombers besides cruise missiles, yet there are thousands of them. In brief, the American approach would lead not to a reduction but to a heightening of the level of nuclear confrontation between the USSR and the United States. Had the present U.S. stand been accepted, the total number of warheads that would be deployed on ballistic missiles and also air, ground and sea based cruise missiles, would exceed by far the number of nuclear warheads that the United States now has on its strategic delivery vehicles.

Washington's line, aimed at continuation of the strategic arms race, including through new channels, at disrupting the established parity of forces, is opposed by the Soviet union's stand aimed at real lessening of the danger of a nuclear war through insuring agreed-upon effective restrictions and really profound reductions of strategic armaments with the observance of the principle of equality and equal security, with due account for the legitimate interests of the parties.

The USSR stands for a comprehensive approach--all strategic delivery vehicles would be subject to restrictions and reductions in their aggregate, not in some artificially singled out groups or portions. Likewise, all nuclear warheads would be taken into account within the framework of the agreed-upon ceiling. The Soviet Union concretely proposes that the total aggregate level of nuclear warheads on strategic delivery vehicles of the sides should be below the number of nuclear warheads which the United States now has. Exactly this approach is the basis of the draft treaty which was submitted by the Soviet delegation in Geneva. It opens the way to a fair accord.

But the United States obviously does not want such an accord. Its conduct at the negotiations and outside the negotiations provides evidence of that.

U.S. MISSILE DEPLOYMENT IN FRG ASSAILED

PM151521 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 83 First Edition p 4

[Political observer Yuriy Zhukov article: "Dangerous Miscalculations"

[Text] While talking with FRG Chancellor H. Kohl in the Kremlin 5 July, Comrade Yu.V. Andropovdrew his attention to the dangerous miscalculations being made by the U.S. and NATO leaders in stubbornly seeking to deploy new medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe, including the FRG, despite the rapidly growing protests from Europeans.

As is known, as early as 28 June the leaders of the USSR and the socialist countries allied with it declared as a result of their meeting in Moscow that they, proceeding from the interests of peace and their own security, "will in no circumstances permit military superiority over themselves." WILL IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT! [Words in uppercase published in boldface. It is time both Washington and Bonn and other NATO states allied with the United States realized this before it is too late.

Meanwhile, they are plainly indulging in self-deception there. They think that by deploying American Pershing-II and cruise missiles in West Europe the United States and NATO will finally ensure their military superiority, and then the USSR "will make concessions" and yield to their diktat. In particular, as the American leaders openly declare, they reckon that in this case they will succeed in forcing the USSR to accept Reagan's proposals at the talks being held in Geneva -- proposals which provide, in point of fact, for the USSR's unilateral disarmament.

Such reckoning is a profound and dangerous delusion, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov declared in conversation with H. Kohl. "If it comes to deployment," he warned, "we will not yeild our positions or weaken our defense but will take timely and effective countermeasures to protect the security of the USSR and its allies."

The self-assured American politicians, who are accustomed to regarding the whole surface of the globe as a field of U.S. "vital interests" under their control, believe that everything is permitted them. They consider that they have a right to deploy their nuclear weapons, which are capable of hitting targets deep inside our territory; with impunity alongside the USSR, whereas the Soviet Union does not have and -- according to American logic, of course -- must not have a comparable potential anywhere near the United States.

This strange, to put it mildly, American logic is widespread in U.S. leading circles. "That is certainly not a situation that could be tolerated," a high-ranking Pentagon staffer declared with aplomb when it became known that American territory will find itself within range of analogous Soviet weapons in the event of Pershing-II's being deployed in the FRG.

But how could it be otherwise, good gentlemen? The Soviet Union, in your opinion, must tolerate the proximity of your missiles, which are capable of reaching our territory in a matter of minutes, while you, do you see, cannot tolerate the possibility that just the same kind of Soviet missiles, curbing your dangerous ambitions, would in that case find themselves at the same flight distance?

I recently participated in a discussion between authoritative Soviet and American representatives on this question. I recall an eminent Soviet expert with figures in his hands -- which the American side knew perfectly and could not dispute -- who convincingly showed how sharply the correlation of forces between the USSR and the United States would change if the Pentagon deployed its 572 missiles in West Europe over and above the almost 900 delivery vehicles for nuclear weapons of the United States and its NATO allies which are already there, and if the USSR did not react to this (which, of course, is inconceivable!)

The American participants in the discussion stayed silent. But our expert had only to mention that if the United States starts installing its new nuclear means, then the USSR will be forced to take adequate measures to preserve the equilibrium, and they at once grew agitated: You see, they said, in that case American security would be jeopardized!

But the Soviet Union declares clearly and plainly: We are seeking an agreement on a basis which is fair to both sides -- on the basis of parity ruling out military superiority for either of the contracting parties. This stand is in full accordance with the principle of equality and identical security which the USSR and the United States adopted back in 1972 and from which the Soviet Union does not and never will deviate.

So, is it not better, as the USSR leadership does not tire of declaring, to take advantage of the opportunity while it still exists to reach a truly honest agreement which takes account of both countries' legitimate interests, in order, instead of building up medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, to reduce them considerably and thereby greatly improve the situation on our continent and throughout the world?

However, Washington, by all accounts, remains deaf to this voice of reason. This is why, the closer we get to the start of a dangerous new arms race spiral, which the Pentagon wants to implement at all costs, the more acute the alarm in West Europe, and not only in Europe.

As the joint statement adopted 12 July by the delegations of the CPSU and the French Communist Party says, "the fact that innumerable forces are arising on every continent which defend the right to life, to life under conditions of peace, is a historically new factor and a tremendous chance for mankind."

There is growing understanding everywhere of the deadly danger which the United States and NATO have brought not only upon Europe but also on the whole world by their intention to deploy new American missiles in West European countries, where means capable of destroying everything living 10 times over are already concentrated.

The American press now writes with undisguised concern that the political horizon in the countries where preparations to deploy these missiles have begun is covered with somber storm clouds. A "hot fall" is expected there, which will undoubtedly be marked by frenzied protest demonstrations against the deployment of new American missiles. These protests, so certain West European politicians predict, will be the most serious and stormy in all postwar history.

Commenting on these reports, American commentators emphasize that the most acute situation is taking shape in the FRG, on whose soil the Pentagon is preparing to place high-speed Pershing-II missiles targeted on the USSR and, naturally, incurring the danger of a lightning counterstrike. "The Germans," so THE WASHINGTON POST emphasized 3 July, "have for the first time come up against the likelihood that their country will be a battlefield in a nuclear war." And this is arousing ever-increasing concern among them.

It seems that the present FRG Government is not inclined to heed the profound alarm which has seized its people. Probably this is precisely why official propaganda there is at pains to emphasize now that the deployment of new American missiles will not entail dangerous consequences.

But sober-minded people do not give in to these disorienting assertions. They realize, as the West German press points out, that the whole situation will change if, in spite of everything, American missiles are installed in their land. "For the FRG," as the FRG chancellor was warned in Moscow, "the danger of war will increase many times over. Certain complications in relations between our two countries will also be inevitable. As for Germans in the FRG and the GDR, as someone put it recently, they would have to look at each other across a dense palisade of missiles."

Serious concern at this prospect was reflected in the report "New Strategy," which has just been published by an authoritative working group under the board of the FRG Social Democratic Party. This group sounds the alarm by declaring that "there is no alternative to continuing and deepening the policy of detente" and that "strong security cannot be achieved by military means alone, still less with the help of the ever greater accumulatio of new weapons systems. Tension so far has only increased as a result of the militarization of politics." This working group rightly points out in its report that "every twist to the spiral of the arms race, which is being undertaken for the persuasiveness of deterrent systems and for strategic stability, creates new instability." Therefore the report puts forward this demand: "Renounce the creation of new weapons systems."

The appeal by the working group under the FRG Social Democratic Party board echoes many authoritative voices demanding an end to the crazy nuclear arms race and a freeze on these arms.

These demands meet with the active support of all peoples, including the American people. And it was no coincidence that not so long ago the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress, whose present members will have to face the voters next year, voted, in defiance of pressure from the White House, for a freeze on nuclear weapons.

On 16 June the idea of a freeze on nuclear arms as a first effective step on the way to reducing and ultimately totally liquidating nuclear arms was unanimously supported by the USSR Supreme Soviet. Fulfilling the will of the people's elected representatives, on 21 June the Soviet Government proposed to the U.S., British, French, and Chinese Governments a quantitative and qualitative freeze on all nuclear arms.

What would this mean in practice? First, an end to the buildup of these arms and the abandonment of the deployment of new kinds and types of them. Second, the suspension of all tests of nuclear ammunition, as well as their delivery vehicles. All this would be monitored with the help of national technical means. Certain additional measures could also be agreed on the basis of cooperation.

Naturally, the peace-loving public awaits with interest a reply to this new, far-reaching Soviet initiative. The first reaction of the governments to which the USSR's appeal was addressed certainly does not promise anything good. Well, there can be no doubt that ignoring the peoples' clearly expressed will to halt the dangerous arms race will bring about a still greater intensification of the struggle for a freeze.

A meeting between delegations of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress took place in Moscow recently. Their emissaries had not met for approximately 4 years--as is known, interparliamentary relations had been broken off for a long time by the American side. Naturally, many urgent problems demanding a thorough dialogue had accumulated over those years. We held talks for 3 days. There were many debates and arguments, sometimes even pointed ones, on many issues, including questions of the struggle against the arms race.

But this is what was significant. Both sides reached the common opinion that the United States and the USSR have no way other than to seek accords, despite the differences in their social systems. The support given by the participants in that meeting to the idea of a freeze on nuclear arsenals as the first stage on the way to ending the arms race was constructive.

This was advocated by deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and it was also advocated by members of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress -- even by those who support the positions of R. Reagan's administration. "In the coming months," D. Cheney, Republican member of the House, said 7 July, "it is necessary to secure a fundamental shift in resolving the question of medium-range missiles in order to return to the state of normal relations and implement an arms reduction so that the world becomes calmer."

Well, anyone who sincerely wishes to preserve peace can subscribe to these words, regardless of his political and religious convictions -- whether he is an American, a German, a Soviet citizen, a Pole, a Frenchman, a Hungarian, a Yugoslav -- any European, and not only a European.

People are becoming increasingly clearly aware of the dramatic nature of the situation with which they are now faced. This was stated very bluntly by the participants in the recent world assembly in Prague in their appeal: "Mankind has reached a fateful crossroads in its history. One step in the wrong direction, and the world could be plunged into the abyss of nuclear war." It is all the more important at this most crucial time to prevent the dangerous miscalculations which have been made so frequently in Washington in recent years. This situation imperiously demands well weighed, realistic solutions which take soberly into account not only one's own interests but also the legitimate interests of other states.

The very near future will show whether this is understood in Washington and at NATO headquarters. There is only just enough time left for meditation.

USSR RECONCILIATION TO EUROMISSLES DENIED

PM172037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by Yu. Bandura under the rubric "Pertinent Notes": "'Sensational' Misinformation"]

[Text] West Germany's DDP agency recently issued a report alleging that the Soviet Union "...has become reconciled" to the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in West Europe scheduled for the end of the year. A sensation? Not at all. In this case it is merely a question of misinformation disguised as sensation, which reeks of a crudely concocted political intrigue from thousands of miles away.

The tasks which the authors of the falsification and their clients have set themselves are obvious: first, instilling in the peace-loving West European public the "idea" that there is no need to struggle against the cruise missiles and Pershings. ("If the USSR has become reconciled to them, why should we oppose them?"); second, to "prove" that actions against the Soviet Union from a position of strength are the best method of dealing with Moscow ("Look, you see, we have shown persistence -- and the Soviets are reconciled to it!")

The DDP item has been fabricated. And, moreover, fabricated with Washinton's hand, its finger showing the West European NATO partners how to prepare the soil for the launchpads for the Pentagon's nuclear arsenals. The West German agency's freshly concocted "sensation" has nothing in common with the real state of affairs. And not only the FRG but also the United States and indeed all the other NATO states are perfectly well informed of the fact. Because there can be no question of any "reconciliation" with the attempts by Washington and its NATO partners to fundamentally alter the strategic situation in Europe to the detriment of the interests of the USSR and its allies.

Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stated this quite definitely at his meeting on 5 July with FRG Chancellor H. Kohl: "The NATO countries' politicians are constantly reiterating that the USSR will embark on concessions in Geneva after the new U.S. missiles are introduced into Western Europe. That is a gross and dangerous misconception. If matters do get as far as deployment, we will not surrender our positions or weaken our defenses but will take prompt and effective retaliatory steps protecting the security of the USSR and its allies." The deployment of the U.S. missiles in Western Europe will entail a radical change in the situation in Europe and will multiply many times over the danger of war to its peoples. Preventing the situation from developing in this direction -- that is the aim which the Soviet Union and all Warsaw Pact states set themselves. The course toward eliminating the threat of nuclear confrontation in Europe and Europe's complete liberation from nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical, was confirmed quite recently -- at the 28 June Moscow meeting of leading party and state figures of the seven European socialist countries. At this forum the socialist community states expressed the readiness to achieve an accord ruling out the deployment of new U.S. missiles in the West European countries and providing for corresponding reductions in the medium-range missiles existing in Europe.

This is the truth about the Soviet Union's position and the position of the socialist community countries. Neither the White House nor its NATO partners like the truth, however. And DDP'S "sensational" misinformation is the best proof of that. Otherwise, why take the trouble to engage in exercises involving unscrupulous fabrications?

USSR'S ISRAELYAN ADDRESSES DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE

LD151020 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Correspondent Vsevold Shishkovshiy report]

[Text] The participants in the summer session of the Disarmament Committee have continued their discussion of the most important problems of the present day: Averting nuclear war, curbing the arms race, and nuclear disarmament. In almost all speeches a high assessment of the broad complex of peace proposals and initiatives put forward by the USSR and the other socialist countries was given. Great interest was evoked in the committee by the speech by Viktor Israelyan, head of the Soviet delegation. The USSR considers, Viktor Israelyan said, that nuclear war would mean a general disaster. It would be capable of leading to the destruction of the whole of mankind. In conditions of the extremely strained international situation, the head of the USSR delegation stressed, such a measure as a freeze on nuclear arsenals, simple in its content and effective in its consequences, could make a serious contribution to reducing the danger of a nuclear disaster.

The work of the summer session of the disarmament committee is continuing.

REAGAN STAND ON NUCLEAR BUILDUP 'FALSE DEMAGOGY'

LD171041 Moscow Tass International Service in Russian 0946 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Washington, 17 Jul (TASS) -- U.S. President Reagan has just spoken in his radio broadcast to the country. He once again tried to justify the course of his administration toward an unprecedented buildup of U.S. missiles and nuclear potential and breaking the existing rough parity of Soviet Union and the U.S. strategic forces.

Western Europe is regarded by the Pentagon as a most probable theatre of a so called "limited" nuclear war. That is the purpose of new American nuclear missiles, especially Pershing-2 missiles, which reach the Soviet Union in six minutes. Preparations for deploying them in West Germany have already been started.

In its plans for a "limited" nuclear war for which the USA has chosen the densely populated Western Europe, Washington is evidently ready to use any barbarous means of mass destruction -- from tactical nuclear weapons to strategic missiles. These American aggressive designs expose Europe to a mortal danger. They may sharply sharpen the nuclear confrontation on the continent. But what is this to Washington with its imperial ambitions and claims to world supremacy for the sake of which it is ready to sacrifice the destinies of whole nations?

U.S. CHEMICAL ARSENAL BUILDUP DEPLORED

LD171853 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The American Senate has yielded to the pressure of the Reagan administration and allocated over $130 million in the upcoming fiscal year on the production of a new type of war chemical: binary ammunition. Here's a commentary by our military expert, (Aleksandr Gureyev):

Plans for making such ammunition are only a part of the American 5-year Program of Preparations for chemical and biological warfare, a program worth almost $10 billion. Already now, the Pentagon has 150,000 tons of toxic substances. Ten bases in the United States, Johnston Atoll in the Pacific and in Federal Germany have (?three) million shells, mines and air-bombs filled with war gas. By the way, Washington does not conceal the fact that along with other types of chemical weaponry, binary shells are supposed to be used in Europe first of all. And the head of the Pentagon, Caspar Weinberger has publicly claimed that the new war chemicals are vitally important for the security of the United States.

Apparently Washington is more interested in carrying out the will of (General Fries) than in ridding humanity from this horrible mass annihilation weapon. Shortly after World War I, (General Fries), the father of American war chemicals, said the country that would be able to produce and use gases on the greatest scale would become militarily stronger than any other nation on the globe.

Washington follows this cannibalistic advice. Today, the arsenals of the Pentagon have such a great quantity of the poisonous substances that according to [words indistinct] can destroy the entire population of the planet 50 times over.

To deceive the American and world public, the White House claims that these monstrous stores are necessary for restraining the Soviet Union. It says that the United States is allegedly ready to ban and destroy war chemicals. But why did American delegates refuse to continue talks with Soviet Union on the issue in 1980? Why is the United States trying to stalemate the talks at the Disarmament Committee? Washington is opposed to a complete ban on means of chemical warfare, including the types the Pentagon strategists inhumanly used against the people of Indochina. The United States continues to ignore the Soviet-proposed draft of a convention banning the development, production and accumulation of stores of war chemicals and clling for the liquidation of such chemicals. American delegates at the United Nations voted against the resolution adopted by the General Assembly on the need to speedily work out and conclude such a convention.

The President even came to a point where he almost called the decision adopted by Washington on the deployment of 100 new "MX" intercontinental ballistic missiles the guarantee of success at the Soviet-U.S. talks on limitation and reduction of strategic weapons in Geneva. According to this "logic" the massive U.S. nuclear rearmament program that is being sought by the administration should, allegedly, increase the chance of strengthening international peace.

The President never said a word about the constructive Soviet proposals envisaging a substantial reduction of all existing types of strategic arms and the closing off of new channels [kanalov] of thearms race. It is no secret to anyone that it is precisely the fault of the Reagan administration that the talks in Geneva are making no headway. The full implication of both the "old" and the"new" proposals of the Reagan administration is as be re directed toward the unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union and the guaranteeing of the U.S. military superiority.

The false nature of the "peace-loving" demagogy of the head of the White House has been noted by Senator P. Leahy, who sharply criticized President Reagan's arms control policy. The President is in no way manifesting flexibility in Geneva, Leahy said. He is insisting on proposals the absurdity of which is talked about even by former U.S. representatives at the Soviet-U.S. talks. It the present U.S. Administration is striving sincerely toward achieving an agreement with the USSR, then it has every opportunity to achieve this aim. The senator called on the President to listen to the opinion of the U.S. people, who favor an agreement with the Soviet Union as soon as possible.

'SECRET' U.S. REPORT PLANS NUCLEAR FIRST STRIKE

LD151320 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS- TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

Plans for a first nuclear strike against the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty countries are being hatched in Washington. A fresh confirmation of this was a report by the American television company NBC concerning the existence of a "top-secret report" prepared by the U.S. Congress. The cynical conclusion made in this report is that the U.S. Armed Forces in Western Europe do not allegedly have enough conventional arms for a war with the Soviet Union -- and this is said about the American Army which is armed to the teeth in this region -- that United States will have to use tactical nuclear weapons at an early stage of a military conflict. So that is the reason why Washington flatly refuses to follow the Soviet Union's example and pledge not to make first use of nuclear weapons. The impression is that the USA wants to be free to make a first nuclear strike with all means at its disposal and use Western Europe, because of its proximity to the Soviet Union, as a convenient staging ground for such an attack and, accordingly, as a target for a retaliatory blow, in the hope that America, lying overseas, will not suffer.

That is precisely the reason why the Reagan administration is so feverishly active in trying to deploy in Western Europe, next door to the Soviet Union, 572 more missiles capable of hitting targets deep in Soviet teritory, in addition to approximately 900 vehicles of nuclear weapons of the USA, and its NATO allies already sited there.

Apparently Washington realizes that this stand is shaky and to conceal its own plans of chemical rearmament, American politicians resort to shameless lies about the Soviet Union. Three years ago, they produced the myth that toxic substances of Soviet make were allegedly used in Southeast Asia and Afghanistan. This was a lie. An authoritative committee of experts from various countries, including the United States, Britain and Canada, has arrived at the conclusion that there is no evidence of the use of Soviet war-gas there.

The group of UN experts, formed at the initiative of the United States, shares this viewpoint. Neither dirty slanders about the Soviet Union, spread by the Western propaganda, nor the assurances of American politicians that the United States is ready to ban war chemicals can conceal the sinister plans of Washington from the peaceloving public. It is absolutely clear today that strategists of the Pentagon intend to add to their arsenal another variety of horrible arms: binary ammunition.

NATO'S ROGERS' WORD ON FIRST STRIKE 'OMINOUS'

PM151551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Jul 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch from own correspondent V. Drobkov under the rubric "Rejoinder": "Rogers Spells it Out"]

[Text] Brussels, 13 Jul--It has long been known in Europe that the NATO military plans to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Rarely, however, have its representatives informed the world of its intention as frankly as U.S. General B. Rogers did the other day.

In an interview with THE LOS ANGELES TIMES which was widely reprinted in the West European press the supreme commander in chief of NATO allied forces in Europe said that the North Atlantic block is prepared to use nuclear weapons in the event of a military conflict and, moreover, to do so first.

The general's statement is particularly ominous viewed against the background of Washington's intensified preparations for the deployment of new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe. As was recently reported from the North Atlantic bloc's Evere headquarters, preparations for the deployment of the Pershing II and cruise missiles are in full swing. Preparatory work at the bases, the transportation of the missiles, and the training of servicemen are already underway," an AFP correspondent was told there with satisfaction.

Clearly, Washington is even more satisfied. All the signs are that it already regards as settled the issue of turning West Europe into a launchpad for U.S. first-strike weapons.

But are the United States and NATO not celebrating prematurely? The general's revelations should make those leaders in West European capitals who are so eager to make their countries' soil available for the deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles think again. These are the very same first-strike missiles which Rogers is so casually prepared to launch.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD171700 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Weekly "International Observers Roundtable" program, with Gennadiy Vedenyapin, all-union radio foreign affairs commentator; Igor Petrovich Belyayev, head of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA foreign political department; and Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, deputy editor in chief of TRUD]

Anitwar Movement

[Text] [Vedenyapin] One of the most pressing demands of the moment is to halt the buildup in nuclear weapons. This axiom of our day was enshrined in the joint statement by delegations of the CPSU and the French Communist Party [PCF] published this week. The statement was the outcome of talks in Moscow between the delegations of the two parties, talks during which attention was focused on the chief concern of the peoples of the whole world, peace and disarmament.

The document voices profound anxiety over the present international situation. Mankind, the CPSU-PCF joint statement says, finds itself faced with the threat of nuclear war, with all its catastrophic consequences for contemporary civilization and life on earth. The CPSU and PCF delegations expressed the conviction that in the situation that is taking shape the cheif thing is to push back the threat of war and turn the course of world events toward detente, and to find ways of tackling the urgent key tasks of curbing the arms race as soon as possible and of disarmament. It is quite obvious that these tasks can be dealt with in the framework of honest and constructive dialogue between East and West, in a way that would preserve the balance of forces that has come about and ensure equal security for the sides.

There is indeed a good basis for such a dialogue: the numerous initiatives from the USSR and the socialist countries, the proposals made by the Nonaligned Movement and the neutral states and by countries of northern Europe. A move toward detente could also be facilitated by proposals from various political organizations favoring peace and disarmament.

At the recent Moscow meeting of leading party and state figures from seven socialist countries clear constructive proposals were made, which incidentally were reaffirmed by the CPSU delegation at its talks with the PCF delegation. These proposals were directed at cutting back both nuclear weapons in Europe and strategic ones, and at excluding the possibility of the arms race being extended into space.

Then there was the appeal that recently sounded out from Moscow to all nuclear powers to freeze simultaneously all accumulated arsenals of nuclear weapons, in both quantitative and qualitative terms. This appeal was issued as thousands of representatives of antiwar movements from all over the world gathered in Praque, when the World Assembly "For Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War" was taking place. And I witnessed the unusually interested reaction of the participants in the Prague forum to this new peace initiative from the Soviet Union.

A freeze [word spoken in English] that is, freezing nuclear weapons is extremely essential for all, said the well-known American public figure Mary Kauffman in a conversation with Soviet journalists. The only shame, she added, is that Washington is quite unwilling to heed the voice of reason. Yet Moscow is proposing concrete steps that, if implemented, would bring a sigh of relief from the whole of mankind.

[Kolchanov] The Prague Assembly has concluded its work, but millions of people will undoubtedly return often to its results and its appeals. This assembly was a powerful stimulus to the further development of the antiwar movement in all corners of the world.

This is a movement that is gathering strength and becoming a truly real barrier to the adventurists trying to play with the destinies of whole peoples. I shall cite a few facts about the antiwar movement in Europe. In the FRG over 3 million people signed the Krefeld Appeal, which calls on the Bonn government to retract its assent to deployment of new American medium-range missiles. In Britain, over 150 local councils have declared their areas nuclear-free zones. Peace supporters in that country are planning to organize pickets against cruise missiles outside the Parliament building and to hold mass demonstrations near military bases. In Italy, thanks to actions by Italian women, construction has been brought to a halt several times at the base near the hamlet of Comiso, where the stationing of American medium-range nuclear weapons is planned. In Denmark, Belgium, Holland, and practically all NATO countries in Europe, public opinion is stepping up its struggle against the atomic threat from across the ocean.

And one should not fail to emphasize that the voice of the trade unions is sounding forth more powerfully day by day. At an international trade union meeting held during the course of the Prague assembly on the initiative of the international trade union committee for peace and disarmament, otherwise known as the Dublin committee, after the city where it was formed last year, trade union emissaries from dozens of countries stressed the urgency of combining trade union efforts in the struggle against the danger of a new war and for disarmament. American workers and their trade unions are preparing for a mass march on Washington on 27 August. The Danish organization of trade unions for peace and similar organization in Canada have called on trade unions to put aside differences on ideological and political issues and combine their strength to halt the arms race. For indeed the arms race has long been a brake on development for whole regions of the world and there are today almost a billion people suffering from starvation or malnutrition, with 40 million people dying from this every year. Over a billion people are deprived of clean drinking water and elementary medical assistance. There are similar numbers of homeless and illiterate people. There are 350 million children without schools. And at the same time around 450 million adults are in whole or in part unemployed.

[Vedenyapin] Those who defend the present American Administration's line for attaining military superiority try to impress the idea of the supposedly beneficial effect of the arms race on the economy, on the economic situation, in an effort to convince people that, as they put it, this has a favorable influence on employment and on technical progress. But some figures were published recently by UN experts showing convincingly that major military spending has the most unfavorable influence on economic growth and employment and is one of the chief causes of stagnation in the world economy. In the view of the UN experts, prospects for economic development in the eighties will depend more than ever before precisely on progress in the disarmament field. The specialists draw attention to the fact that the arms race unrestrainedly pockets those resources of which there are limited amounts on earth.

At the present time, between 3 and 12 percent of the world's production of 14 precious minerals is used for military purposes. And these are minerals that are inacute demand for civil industries. At the present time, I would remind you -- and these are also UN figures -- $1 million is spent every minute in the world for military purposes. And approximately one fifth of this colossal amount goes to expanding and improving nuclear arsenals, which pose the greatest of threats to the security of the peoples. And in this connection I should like to recall the latest initiative from the socialist countries. As is known, they proposed to NATO member-states that an agreement be reached not to increase military spending from January next year as well as for concrete measures for mutual reduction of such spending in the future. The benefit that would flow from the implementation, from the potential implementation, of such an agreement is totally obvious.

[Kolchanov] Gennadiy Aleksandrovich, this pseudoargument, this false argument that the development of military industries supposedly helps to resolve employment problems is now being rejected even by reformist trade unions in the West, inasmuch as its falsity and spuriousness are evident. And it is no accident that trade unions' slogans in the struggle for peace -- the social content of these slogans -- and the, so to speak, purely political, content in them, is combined and the two elements complement one another. And it is no accident that purely political and social slogans will predominate at the central trade union event to be held on 1 September which will be marked as a day of trade union actions for peace.

At the Prague trade union meeting those participating expressed the hope that trade unions from various countries would take an active part in this event and also come up with other initiatives for peace events, similar, for instance, to the international trade unions and peace meeting that is due to be held in October 1983. It needs to be said that the antiwar movement, and in particular trade union actions for peace, are meeting with the most abrupt counteractions from the authorities in a whole number of Western countries. Peace campaigners in the FRG are the object of particular attacks, it seems. The authorities accuse them of contravening the Constitution and violating law and order. Bonn officialdom, above all through the efforts of Zimmermann, the minister of the interior, and with the full backing of the CSU [Christian Socialist Union], CDU [Christian Democratic Union] and all reactionary forces in the country, is urgently getting a punitive law ready to deal with peace campaigners. The internal back-up, so to speak, is being prepared for the new American nuclear invasion of West Germany. The gist of the law in brief is of an utterly provocative nature.

How is this manifested? The idea is that if anyone taking part in a demonstration throws a stone in the direction of a policemen, the police are empowered to arrest at least 100 people around him and to halt, put down and disperse the demonstration altogether. Well, imagine a demonstration of 100,000 or 200,000, even demonstrations of 500,000 people are not infrequent now: surely it would not be difficult for the Ministry of the Interior and the relevant organizations to plant a pair of provocateurs among the demonstrators. Thus, the provocative nature of this law, which is supposed to become a legal, formal way of dealing with participants in the peace movement, is clear.

Gennadiy Aleksandrovich, when discussing attacks on the antiwar movement, particularly in Europe, one cannot but recall the ideological, political attacks. Well, unceasingly, for quite a number of decades now, and particularly in recent years, reactionary forces in the West have been labeling the whole of this antiwar movement as the intrigues of Moscow, saying that the hand of Mosocw is clearly mixed up in this.

[Vedenyapin] Yes, I remember that during the proceedings of the recent Prague World Assembly "For Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War," both the Voice of America, the BBC and the Springer group's DIE WELT went in for fabrications on this score. They asserted that the Prague assembly of peace-loving forces was subsidized and orchestrated from Moscow, no less, and that all those taking part, delegates from different antiwar movements, were its agents. During the assembly proceedings, I happened to talk to many of the participants. A very broad spectrum of peace-loving forces was represented there; there were jurists, lawyers, members of parliament, workers, peasants, and representatives of religious circles. The assembly's very composition shows the uncoordinated nature, so to speak, of the assembly. And the reaction of many of the participants to such inventions was a skeptical smile at best, and, in a number of cases, just sincere indignation and outrage.

[Belyayev] The hand of Moscow in the present tense, international situation is an invitation to resolute action against inperialist circles and aggressors, and all those who today are intensifying tension in the modern world.

PLO, Near East Tension

Here in our country, in Moscow, last week, Comrade Gromyko met with leaders of the PLO. The Palestinian side was headed by Faruq Qaddumi, member of the PLO Executive Committee. During a discussion of the Near East situation -- as is known from Soviet press reports in connection with the meeting -- it was unanimously stressed that tension there has increased even further recently as a result of the continuing aggression by Israel, with Washington's support, against the Palestinian and other Arab peoples, and of the attempts to foist separate deals on them that ignore the Arabs' legitimate rights and interests.

In connection with this very important remark, I should like to draw your attention to a certain modification that has come about in recent months in the actions of both Israel and the United States. While the anti-Syrian campaign has died down slightly today, what is taking place on the West Bank of the Jordan effectively signifies that the Israeli occupying authorities have taken the offensive against the Palestinian Arabs in order to consolidate the de facto annexation of the West Bank of the Jordan and, in fact, to prepare the ground for announcing this publicly in the near future.

The second thing I should like to draw your attention to today is the following: The United States is preparing gigantic maneuvers in the Near East, which will embrace the territory of our Arab countries. These will be carried out by the Rapid Deployment Force. In a word, the physical American military presence in Sinai and in Lebanon -- a presence that will be extended in the very near future after the redeployment of Israeli troops and their departure, so to speak, to the south of the country -- and Begin is being driven to this departure not by circumstances of a political nature but by the Lebanese national patriotic forces continuing partisan struggle -- well, in connection with this the Americans intend not merely to extend their military presence in Lebanon -- they are talking of doubling the strength of their Marines, with troops perhaps being brought in from the United States -- but these will effectively be preparations for the immediate commencement of the establishment of bridgeheads, if you will, for this Rapid Deployment Force designed for the occupation of Arab states if political developments in these countries do not suit Washington.

These two new points show that the United States not only supports Israeli aggression and finances Israel's longest war in Lebanon, but is doing everything practical in its power to ensure that Israel's anti-Arab policy effects in the near future the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza, thus bringing forward the moment when the U.S. military can exercise its sway in the Near East.

[Vedenyapin] Igor Petrovich, there has been a great deal of discussion recently of the situation that has arisen in the Palestinian resistance movement, and the report on the visit to Moscow by the PLO delegation, headed by Qaddumi, says that the Soviet side firmly voiced the view that it is inadmissible that there should be quarrels and internecine disputes among Palestinians in the face of the Israeli aggressor.

[Belyayav] It seems to me that this remark shows that the situation in the Palestinian resistance movement is giving rise to alarm in our country. This alarm is connected above all with the fact that certain figures of the Palestinian resistance movement, in particular representatives of the left-wing in the Fatah organization, believed that the talks that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, held with King Husayn, were a departure from the policy of struggle against Israeli aggression and were a kind of compromise, so to speak, not just with King Husayn but also with Israel. In particular, such figures as Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa] -- the former is a politician who leads the left-wing of Fatah -- held these views.

[Vedenyapin] Igor Petrovich, was the dissatisfaction caused by the fact that the talks were being held at all, or by the contents of the talks?

[Belyayev] In my view, dissatisfaction was cuased by both these things. King Husayn is known as an Arab politician for, among other things, his desire to take advantage of any opportunity for holding all kinds of talks. It is well-known that he did not accept the Reagon plan, it is well-known that he rejected the idea of separate involvement in talks with Israel through the United States. But at the same time certain Palestinian figures believed that King Husayn was holding talks with Yasir 'Arafat in order that the latter might give him his authority for appropriate talks with the United States within the framework of the Regan plan, and thus with Israel. Here, evidently, Abu Salih or Abu Musa -- I repeat that the former is a politician and the later a military leader -- had some misgivings that a compromise may be reached at the expense of the, so to speak, radical wing of the PLO.

Here in Moscow, where Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko discussed with the Palestinian leaders such questions as the convening of an international conference on the Near East, it was stressed during discussions that there is a realistic platform for the work of such a conference in the shape of the principles for a Near East settlement approved by the pan-Arab conference at Fes and the Soviet Union's constructive proposals for the attainment of a firm and just peace in this region. We in essence declared that the two initiatives coincide, so to speak.

Vienna Talks Stall

[Kolchanov] Esteemed colleagues, if you have no objection, perhaps we may leave the complex political problems of the Near East, return to Europe, and touch on European political problems, which are no less complex. During his visit to the Soviet Union the FRG federal chancellor, referring to the Vienna talks, said that the problem of nuclear disarmament should not distract us from the problem of reducing conventional armaments and armed forces.

I thing that this premise is right in principle. Indeed, why should the one get in the way of the other? They should supplement each other. The Vienna talks remain a problem. The talks began in October 1973. The fundamental task was precisely defined. The purpose of the talks was to draw up an agreement on the basis of which there would be fewer troops and armaments in this region of our continent, both on the NATO side and on the Warsaw Pact countries' side. One might have thought that this was a clear task. But the fast start was followed by such a slow pace over a long distance that the finish has still not taken place. This is a fact. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have on several occasions put forward specific programs for the solution of the problem on the agenda. But the West has blocked these programs. It has either started up scholastic arguments about whether, for example, one should count civilians who carry out subsidiary operations as servicemen or not. Or it has brought up the subject of ways of verification. In this way it is putting the cart before the horse. After all, everyone can see that, to begin with, one should reach agreement on the substance of the problem and then go on to ways and means of verification.

I do not think there is any point in returning to the past now. This is because the socialist countries have submitted new proposals that are specific, clear and mutually acceptable. Following the proposals of 17 February 1983, the socialist countries submitted at the end of last month a draft for an all-embracing agreement on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe and measures associated with this. This draft retains and develops all the positive things that were accumulated during the Vienna talks. At the same itme it represents a compromise taking account of the Western powers' wishes in many respects.

What are the main features of this draft? We are giving up as a bad job the fruitless arguments as to which of the two blocs has the most troops and armaments. No matter how many they may now have, let us agree, our proposal runs, to reduce within 3 years of the agreement coming into force the military groupings of both the Warsaw Pact and NATO to equal collective levels, to 900,000 men on either side. This total would include no more than 700,000 ground forces on either side. The air force manpower of each side would be limited to 200,000 men. The draft envisages an entire package of measures for the verification of the agreement's implementation and a sufficiently effective control on the level of the remaining numerical strength of the armed forces.

[Vedenyapin] In other words, Rudolf Georgiyevich, the draft of the new agreement again shows how persistently and consistently the socialist countries are continuing to seek an easing of the danger of a military confrontation in Central Europe, where the frontiers of two social systems meet, where considerable contingents from the armed forces of the two military and political alliances, NATO and the Warsaw Pact, confront each other. In the current complex international situation, the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact member-states says, it is especially necessary to break the deadlock on real limitation and reduction of armaments and armed forces.

[Kolchanov] By submitting new proposals in Vienna the socialist countries are declaring to their Western partners that the time has come to act. We hope that the Western side will approach the new proposls with all seriousness and responsibility and at last display both political commonsense and the will to achieve accord, not in words but in deeds.

Chad Situation

[Belyayev] Well, naturally, we would not be doing the right thing if in our talk today we passed over the events in Chad. This much-suffering African country, a former French colony, is now living through one of the, I would say, saddest periods in its history. Civil war has been continuing in Chad for 17 years now. The various political groupings have simply not been able to reach agreement among themselves. Too often during these 17 years the clashes between these groupings have cost Chad enormous losses at a time when the country should have been developing economically and solving its social problems. And now Hissein Habre, that same Habre who overthrew the head of state, Goukouni Oueddei, in June last year, is trying to strengthen his military formations with the assistance of foreigners. Before our eyes the tradition of the last century is being revived, the tradition of interference by the imperialists in the internal affairs of the continent's countries, and their sole objective is to consolidate the hold on power of those who suit them best.

In this respect it seems to me that very great alarm is aroused, first, by the actions of certain NATO members, above all France. Admittedly, that country has not yet opted for direct military intervention. Nevertheless, they are saying at every opportunity that Habre, for example, would welcome it if France were to send several regiments to Chad. Zairian paratroopers are already fighting in Chad. What is more, the scale of their interference in Chad's internal affairs is growing all the time. At first there was talk of 250 paratroopers. Then another 650 men arrived. In other words, President Mobutu of Zaire considers that the time has come for him not only to interfere in the internal affairs of Chad but also to determine the way in which this independent African country should develop.

Threatening statements about Chad were made by Caspar Weinberger, the head of the Pentagon. He told a French television correspondent: The United States has helped Chad before and we intend to go on giving assistance to that country. If Ndjamena, the capital of Chad, makes a request of this kind to us, we will consider it very attentively.

What is this if not an invitation, so to speak, to make such an appeal? What is this if not a manifesto to the effect that the United States is prepared to embark on open imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the people of Chad? This is what the United States is now dreaming of. In view of this increasing imperialist interference in African affairs, it seems to me that the warning from Moscow was a very timely one. The TASS statement published last week showed the entire world that the Soviet Union is not only closely watching everything that is taking place in Chad and everything that is currently taking place on the African Continent. It also warns the imperialist powers not to get carried away, to put it mildly, since their actions are destabilizing the political situation in Africa and are fraught with very serious danger.

[Vedenyapin] The entire course of recent world events reveals ever new aspects of the many ways in which the socialist states are influencing international affairs. They are now an immensely important factor in the cause of securing lasting peace on earth. The June CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and also the Moscow meeting of leading party and state figures from the countries of the socialist community vividly showed that in our epoch it is socialism that is the most consistent defender of healthy principles in international relations, of the interests of detente and peace.

No world problems, including the historic argument between socialism and capitalism, can be resolved by military means, Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov said. People of good will throughout the world subscribe to the appeal of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries, an appeal to all states to find a solution to the pressing tasks of limiting and reducing armaments, above all nuclear armaments, and returning to the path of detente.

On this note, comrades, we conclude our meeting at the roundtable. Thank you for your attention.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

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["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Yevgeniy Kachanov, all-union radio commentator on foreign politics, with Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, TASS political observer: Igor Petrovich Belyayev, doctor of economics; and Yuriy Vladimirovich Soltan, journalist on international affairs]

Washington, Far East Alliance

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] The authors of a whole series of letters are interested in problems arising as a result of Washington's militarist policy in the Far East. Aleksey Ivanovich (Kolesov) from Penza, among other questions, asks what attempts are being made by the United States in the effort to knock together a three-way military alliance with Japan and South Korea. The formation of such an alliance corresponds to the new Pentagon doctrine for the Far East, which was worked out across the ocean following the Reagan's administration's arrival in the White House. This doctrine lies at the basis of the program of large-scale war preparations, harsh confrontation, and escalation of the arms race in the Far Eastern part of the world. A special place in this program is occupied by South Korea. The United States for many years has maintained its 40,000-strong occupation corps there. However, it is not the size of this contingent of troops that determines the significance of South Korean territory in the plans of American strategists, it is the Pentagon's forward bridgehead crammed with nuclear missiles and the very latest battle hardware. Moreover, the American military has recently been increasing its efforts directed at further militarizing South Korea. According to specialists' calculations, up to 1,000 nuclear warheads are already deployed there, supplied with various delivery vehicles, from aircraft of the Strategic Air Command and missiles to artillery weapons.

The striving of the present Washington administration, primarily of President Reagan himself and the Pentagon boss, Weinberger, is by no means limited only to intentions to still further strengthen the South Korean bridgehead of the United States. It is connected with extremely broad schemes. It is directly related to the tripartite military bloc: Washington-Tokyo-Seoul. The outline of such an alliance has recently been sketched out in increasing detail. The creation of such a triangle, according to Pentagon calculations, should supply the American military with firm key positions in the Asian-Pacific Ocean area. This area is viewed by the transatlantic strategists as one of the likely regions of confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union. The Washington architects of the tripartite bloc have been distributed roles in this alliance. The United States itself will be the ideological mentor and main supplier of up-to-date battle machinery; Japan, the basic financier and economic pivot of the bloc; and South Korea the supplier of cannon-fodder, taking account of the fact the Seoul regime is keeping a 700,000-strong army under arms. To this should be added the fact that Tokyo, apart from everything else, decided to play yet another role: to turn the Japanese archipelago into an unsinkable aircraft carrier of the American Armed Forces. Such an initiative by the Nakasone government was carefully written into the scenario envisioned by the authors of the projected alliance. In calculating on creating the military triangle in the Far East the United is taking into account its bilateral military-political agreements with Japan and South Korea. The thing then is for Tokyo to form just such ties with Seoul. Preparations for this were started by the Japanese premier, Nakasone, as soon he headed the government. He made his first trip abroad to Seoul even before going to Washington. It is noteworthy that the South Korean visit by Nakasone was unplanned, and was decided on literally in a matter of days. Such haste surprised many, especially since official Tokyo had not previously shown a favorable disposition towards the dictatorial Seoul regime. But here it was now openly justifying the strengthening of ties, asserting that a militarily strong South Korea, so it went, ensured the security of Japan too. This is how -- privately so far -- the groundwork for the new aggressive bloc in the Far East is being laid.

Shultz' Near East Visit

[Kachanov] There are still many letters in our postbag connected with the situation in the Near East. Aleksandr (Tyuterin) from Moscow Oblast, Lena (Zvezdina) Sergey (Turkin) from Novosibirsk, and many others have written. The Near East theme also comes up in connection with the recent visit by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to this area. I turn to our permanent participant in the program, Igor Petrovich Belyayev. Igor Petrovich, one recalls that the Near East at first was not included in the schedule of Shultz's visit to a number of Asian countries. From India he was to have flown to London and then back to Washington. How then did the idea of the surprise visit to the Near East region come up? What is concealed behind it?

[Belyayev] I recall that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz announced his forthcoming visit to the Near East at the beginning of July, speaking at a press conference in Delhi. But if one takes account the specific circumstances connected with his Asian tour, it seemed necessary to him to explain to journalists and the Indian public why it suddenly pleased him to fly into that hot spot. This is how Shultz defined his tasks then, in Delhi: first, to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon; second, to enable Lebanon to become a sovereign country, capable of taking care of its own affairs and independently harnessing its resources; and third, to pay attention to the needs of Israel on the level of ensuring the security of its sovereign borders, proceeding from the assumption that attacks on Israel are being made from the territory of southern Lebanon. Let us take a careful look at each of these points.

Withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon: What could be better?

If, let us say, Israel withdrew its troops beginning on 1 August, as the aggressor country which invaded Lebanon more than a year ago, carried out totally unprovoked aggression and a whole mesh, so to speak, of war crimes, crimes against humanity, crimes against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, then the Syrians and the Palestinians would leave Lebanon as a result. Such a solution of the problem could only be welcomed.

Shultz's second point: Granting Lebanon the possibility of becoming a sovereign country. Who is against it? I consider this point once again for this reason: The point is that if you were now in Beirut you could not fail to encounter not just French and Italians, not just American Marines, but also British soldiers. As one inhabitant of Beirut said to me: We have far more occupiers here now than during the French mandate. At that time there were only the French, but now you see foreigners wherever you go.

As for the third point of which Shultz spoke -- attention to Israel's needs regarding the safeguarding of the security of its sovereign borders, proceeding from the assumption that attacks on Israel were being made from the territory of southern Lebanon -- for me there is a whole series of doubts here. First paying attention to Israel's needs on the level of safeguarding the security of its sovereign frontiers, who is threatening whom? Israel is conducting a war against Lebanon. Israel is threatening a fresh war against Syria. Israel is saying that it intends to find a final solution to the Palestinian problem in Jordan at the expense of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. And under these conditions, Shultz speaks of paying attention to the problem of Israel's security. You know, this means turning everything upside down and even then you would not get as impressive results as did the U.S. secretary of state.

He went on to stress that one needed to proceed from the fact that attacks on Israel were carried out from the territory of southern Lebanon. Here Mr Secretary of State failed to mention one very important detail: On 25 July 1981, the Palestine Liberation Organization signed a cease-fire agreement with Israel. So, from 25 July 1981 to 6 June 1982, i.e., the day of Israel's attack on Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organization scrupulously fulfilled the agreement. There was not a single attack on Israel. In short, when Mr Shultz talks about so-called attacks from the territory of southern Lebanon, attacks which simply did not take place, it leads one to think that there is something fishy here. Something suspicious took place in the kitchen where the idea of this new trip by the U.S. secretary of state to the Near East was cooked up.

[Kachanov] Igor Petrovich, no meaningful or dramatic changes took place in the Near East at that time. One cannot say that Shultz's visit, his trip to the Near East, was caused by urgent or extraordinary circumstances. Therefore, one can probably draw the conclusion that this trip was planned in advance.

[Belyayev] Undoubtedly. But what was its purpose, that's the question. The fact is that in Damascus, the U.S. secretary of state received an unambiguous answer to the question of whether the Syrian Arab Republic would respect the Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. agreement on the withdrawal of forces from the Lebanon or not. No, it would not, he was told, because this agreement is a threat to the sovereignty of Lebanon and, therefore, a threat to the sovereignty of Syria, a threat to the Arab nature of these two countries, a threat to the security not just of these two countries but of other, adjoining Arab countries. I think it is worth reading an extract from an article in the Syrian newspaper AL-BA'TH, an extract which concerns the Syrian position. The Syrian answer to the U.S. representative, AL-BA'TH pointed out, was a clear and decisive answer to all U.S. attempts to put pressure on Syria. The country will continue the struggle for the establishment of a just peace in the region.

The U.S. which helped Israel during its invasion and which is closely coordinating its actions with Tel Aviv in order to consolidate the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and is proving the necessary military supplies for this, is now trying to pretend that it has nothing whatsoever to do with this aggression. However, the policy which the Americans are carrying out, AL-BA'TH noted, eloquently testifies to the fact that Washington is doing absolutely nothing to resolve the question of the withdrawal of Israeli occupying forces from Lebanese territory.

Let us dwell on this last remark. Does it not have something in common with that point in Shultz's program? What it means more or less is this:

The Israelis have announced that they are redeploying their forces, that these forces are being withdrawn from the territory of central Lebanon to the line of the River Awwali, to the north of Sidon, or south of Sidon, or 50 km from the Israeli border, or 45 km from it. But that's only a detail. The Israeli Army is staying there. This will be Israel's so-called security zone which Tel Aviv has decided to hold on to. For how long? For a long time? Forever? The future will tell. But the United States, by all accounts, is prepared to support Israel in this respect.

[Kachanov] In other words it is turning out that Israel will defend the security of its sovereign borders with U.S. support, not from its own territory but from the territory of neighboring Lebanon.

[Belyayev] The time has now come to expose yet another of Mr Shultz's designs. The plan is that either Marines or soldiers from some infantry detachments under the command of the Rapid Deployment Force are to be introduced into this self-same area between Beirut and the River Awwali by the United States. In short, this involves a consolidation and expansion of the physical American military presence in Lebanon.

Let us now touch on another aspect. Let us recall that the Israeli prime minister, Begin, will arrive in Washington on 27 July. When Begin is in the USA, it will be easier for Reagan and Shultz, for that matter, to take a pro-Israeli position which will yield them dividends in the forthcoming U.S. presidential election campaign. Reagan has not yet abandoned the idea of putting himself forward as a candidate for a second term. Reagan wants to make it easier to resolve this problem, to put himself forward as a candidate, and to secure success during this election campaign by adopting, first and foremost, a pro-Israeli course in the Near East. After all, the vote of the Jewish electorate in the United States plays a very great role. The activities of the pro-Israeli lobby in the United States encompass the Congress and several other, so to speak, spheres of political life in the United States. Electors, representatives of Jewish communities in the United States, in such cities and states as New York and Chicago play too important a role in determining who will become President of the United States. Reagan and Shultz need all this for the resolution of their pre-election tasks. That is the whole point.

I think that all this fuss over Shultz's trip is basically intended to create a favorable political atmosphere for the appearance of new accents in the USA's Near East policy. These accents have always existed, so to speak. There is nothing new in this. I am referring to the pro-Israeli accents in this policy. But, after all, since 1 September last year, since the announcement of the Reagan plan, they have begun talking about pro-Arab accents in U.S. policy. People have begun to assert that relations between Israel and the United States are almost strained, that there is almost a quarrel, so to speak, between the great friends. This has now been forgotten. They are now preparing to receive their ally, the Israeli prime minister, with pomp, with honor, without concealing their joy. With him they will hold anti-Arab talks, talks which are anti-Palestinian in their main thurst, talks which will be very costly for those who are truly interested in the earliest possible settlement in the Near East.

[Kachanov] But they are undoubtedly calculating in Washington that this new, pro-Israeli accent will be looked upon favorably in Israel. And they will...

[Belyayev, interrupting] ... also accept it. And in that event....

[Kachanov, interrupting] ... the U.S. press will probably talk about some victory for Reagan in the Near East question and say that he has persuaded Israel.

[Belyayev] There will be a lot of fuss.

[Kachanov] Thank you, Igor Petrovich.

Afghanistan Observed

[Kachanov] Comrades (Novikov) from Donetsk, (Belovik) from Yalta and (Nurmukhamedov) from the town of Shevchenko, ask us to talk about the contemporary internal-political situation in Afghanistan. Your questions will be answered by our special correspondent, Yuriy Soltan, who has just returned from that country.

[Soltan] It is difficult to reply to that question in just a few words. The situation in the country in complicated. The peoples revolutionary power is still solving very many problems: the struggle against the armed bands which are sent in from outside; the problem of organizing transport, eliminating illiteracy; the elimination of discord between national groups, and many others.

But the most important impression -- the I have not just been in the capital of Afghanistan, Kabul, but also in provincial towns and villages -- is that among the people there is a strengthening awareness and a strengthening belief that it is precisely they, the workers, peasants, and young people, they and no one else who are the masters of their life, their country, and their fate; that peoples' revolutionary power is their power which is concerned for their good, their peaceful life, and their security.

[Kachanov] Yuriy Vladimirovich, how is this expressed specifically?

[Soltan] Let us take an Afghan village as an example. The majority of the population of the country are peasants, on the whole illiterate, and in the recent past repressed and downtrodden people who worked as serfs for their masters, the feudal lords. The revolution drove out the feudalists and freed the peasants from dependence on them, giving them the opportunity of working for themselves on their own land. Here is an impressive figure: 350,000 peasant families have received allotments of land gratis and this is not just land, but irrigated land. In Afghanistan, a country with a hot climate, without water land is dead, you will not get a harvest from it. But it was necessary not just to give land, it was necessary to convince the peasant that it was his own land and that no one would take this land from him, that he would be able to work on it in peace.

And there is a phenomenon which is completely new for Afghanistan: The setting up of agricultural cooperatives. I visited one of these cooperatives in the (Dandigur) Valley in the northeast of the country. The owners of the more fertile land there fled from retribution to countries neighboring Afghanistan. Their land has now been distributed to the peasants, and they decided to cultivate it jointly, to create a cooperative. This is as yet a sort of comradeship for joint working of the land. It is not simple to decide to do such a thing, not only because a cooperative is something new and unusual. The bandits, dushmans as they are called here, on occasions deal harshly with the members of cooperatives, destroy harvests and irrigation systems.

But instead of fear, there is hatred for them growing among people. I saw that several peasants were carrying weapons under their clothes. They explained to me that a self-defense unit had been set up here. We still have to go out to work with a mattock in one hand and a rifle in the other, one of them, Mohammad (Yusif), told me.

[Kachanov] Are there many such cooperatives in Afghanistan now?

[Soltan] Yevgeniy Viktorovich, I have the latest data here. Over 1,200 such cooperatives have been set up there. What does this mean? This means that already 200,000 Afghan peasants who have entered the cooperatives have learned the joy of collective labor and understood its advantages. I think that the first, but very important, step has been made along a path which is still complicated and long.

[Kachanov] Yuriy Vladimirovich, you have told of the life in Afghan villages and what is new there. What new things are there in the towns?

[Soltan] When we were in Kabul an event took place there which was very important for Afghanistan, an event which was simply historic. In the polytechnical institute students were defending their dissertations at the candidate of science level. Students graduated before the revolution from the polytechnical institute here, which recently marked its 20th anniversary, and from the university. But those who could, and only very rich people could, all went abroad to further their education.

[Kachanov] Excuse me, Yuriy Vladimirovich, for interrupting you. There have been many cases when precisely these members of the Afghan intelligentsia who had been educated abroad, who did not understand and who feared the revolution, fled abroad.

[Soltan] Yes, you are quite right. But here is what is interesting: Now the return process is beginning and this is also a very characteristic feature of today's Afghanistan. An increasing number of such people are coming back to their homeland in order to take part in the construction of a new life. But, all the same, Afghanistan's young scientists educated in the country itself, by its own efforts, are really a historic fact.

[Kachanov] You were talking of Kabul just now, but how are things in the provincial towns? Foreign newspapers and foreign radio stations' broadcasts often contain statements that Kabul is a special city and that deep in the country and virtually in the majority of the provinces, the dushmans or, as U.S. Secretary of State Shultz describes them, freedom-fighters, hold sway.

[Soltan] You know, I visited the general staff of the Afghan Armed Forces and there I was shown an operational map. The head of the operational directorate, Colonel (Imumadin), told me that the bandits aremed with U.S., British and other weapons -- we saw these weapons later -- were actively operating in 80 districts and sub-districts of the country. In Afghanistan there are 286 districts and sub-districts, I repeat, 286. I visited one of the so-called front-line provinces of Afghanistan, the province of Qandahar which borders on Pakistan. In the town of Qandahar on the day before our arrival the local textile factory was fired on. It was defended by workers from the self-defense unit. One of them was killed and his son wounded, but the town is alive. It lives a full-blooded life. Enterprises are at work even though there is a shortage of electricity here due to the sabotage of the dushmands; the shops and schools are open, and at the textile combine a party cell is operating and it is growing. One of the workers, (Fais Muhammad Abdulla), told me: I joined the party because it is our party; it is struggling to give our people freedom, work, bread, and housing. And I heard these words in other towns, in the district town of (Bibahor), Pul-i-Khomri, and other places.

And I would like to cite another figure which shows how the prestige of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan is growing. In the past 3 years the party has grown threefold. It now comprises about 100,000 leading workers, peasants, representatives of the intelligentsia, and the armed forces. The mass of the people already know sufficiently well who is their enemy and who is their friend. Of course, the undeclared war against Afghanistan is continuing and attempts are being made to intensify it. The United States alone, according to incomplete data, has spent over $300 million on training and arming the bandits. The bandits have caused considerable damage in the country. The government assesses it at 24 million afghanis.

But, as I have already said, the bandits are being rebuffed not only by the Afghan Armed Forces -- and the army of Afghanistan, the new army, the people army, is growing stronger -- but they are being rebuffed by simple people also. The tribes are joining together in the struggle against the dushmans, an increasing number of representatives of the Muslim clergy are taking the side of peoples power which treats religious belief with great tact, understanding and respect; units of self-defense are being set up and are operating successfully.

And if it were not for the armed interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan incited by the United States, and materially supported by the United States and certain other countries, if it were not for the undeclared war which is being waged by the United States with the aid of mercenaries, the bandits would have been dealt with in a short time, and the prerequisites would have been created for the withdrawal of the limited contingent a Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

[Kachanov] One must recall, Yuriy Vladimirovich, that a routine plenum took place recently of the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan. It discussed the situation in the country and stressed that the time had now come for the decisive routing of counterrevolution and the total elimination of banditry.

[Soltan] Yes, that is quite true, but Afghanistan is not only struggling, Afghanistan is building. On 21 March, the plan for the economic and social development of the country came into force. It is to last for 1 year. Its main aim is to restore enterprises which have been totally or partially destroyed by the dushman bandits. I would like to particularly stress that in this important matter Soviet people are giving the Afghan working people great aid. I have seen how they work in Afghanistan -- selflessly and at times in difficult living conditions -- doctors and teachers, builders and mechanics at the machine-tractor stations. The Afghans think highly of their noble mission, respect and love them.

[Kachanov] Thank you very much, Yuriy Vladimirovich, for your interesting talk.

SENATE DEBATES ON ARMS SPENDING ASSESSED

LD170612 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Igor Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] And the last item concerns the debates in the United States Senate on a $200 billion military spending bill. It deals with a vast array of weapons, nuclear, chemical and conventional, which the administration seeks to add to the already awesome arsenal. Watching the debates and the voting one gets the impression that many senators would like to sit on two chairs. They refused to grant funds for the production of a new neutron shell of the 15 mm howitzer because, as Senator Sam Nunn said, this is a way to reduce the risk of nuclear war. At the same time there are no objections to the deployment of some 600 medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. If there is so much concern about a neutron shell being a threat to peace then what about nuclear missiles in Europe? The mood in the Senate is being cleverly exploited by the Reagan administration, who are ready to give in on minor issues but are pressing hard when it comes to a new generation of weapons systems.

Earlier this week Vice President George Bush cast a rare tie breaking vote when the Senate was split on the issue of binary nerve gas. Together with the neutron shell binary bombs and shells are meant to be used in Europe. It's strange but those senators who praise themselves on working to reduce the risk of nuclear war in Europe by turning down the neutron shell were helpless to turn down the binaries or show more resolve in thwarting the deployment of Pershing II's and cruise missiles there. The administration won another victory when the Senate approved advance funding on the B-1 bomber. Next on the administration's list is the MX missile. Funds for its development and testing have already been released. Earlier this week the Defense Department disclosed that work on the Trident 11 missile or the D-5 for the Ohio class submarines had been sped up. The D-5 is said to be as accurate as the land-based MX and equally destabilizing.

Every time the Senate approves a new weapons system the White House congratulates it on making another step towards peace and stability and to an arms control and reduction agreement. Those who tend to fall for this absurb claim will be well advised to remember that it takes two parties to make an agreement and therefore pay more attention to what the Soviet Union says in this respect. The arms race has never been a road to peace and trust. It's been a road to war. Attempts to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union make no sense. Irrespective of the size of the military spending bill discussed in the Senate, the Soviet Union will not allow to upset the existing strategic parity or that in Europe. Blackmail is no way to win anybody's flexibility.

At stake in the Senate is a military spending bill worth $200 billion. President Reagan says the more weapons there are the better for peace. Seen from this angle the Senate is locked in one of the most peace-oriented debates in its history.

REAGAN PEACE STANCE 'COSMETIC OPERATION'

LD171236 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Commentary by Valentin Zorin]

[Text] Have you noticed the changed tone in which the White House talks about war and peace? When Mr Reagan first entered the White House, he and his aids talked tough, even going so far as to say there were more important things than peace.

The then-secretary of state, Alexander Haig, said this and it was not just a chance or poorly worded phrase. The President himself and other members of his administration were saying much the same. As time went on, White House rhetoric got still tougher. There was talk about the possibility of a limited nuclear war and about the permissibility of a preemptive nuclear strike. Americans were told that a nuclear war was not so terrible after all it was possible to survive it.

I am sure you remember this talk. You must have heard it time and again from top Washington officials and read it in the press. And if so, you must have noticed that lately these officials have changed their rhetoric. No longer do they say, at least not for public ears, that world peace is for secondary importance or that America may resort to a preemptive nuclear strike. Quite the contrary. Now the talk in Washington is about the administration's dedication to peace, about its eagerness to improve relations with the Soviet Union, but Soviet stubbornness, it is said, stands in the way.

The change in tone and wording is so striking that it makes you wonder what is benind it. There is no use concluding that President Reagan and his team have taken a serious look at their policies and changed their objectives. All too often they continue to emphasize that their policies remain the same and they are still dedicated to the goal they proclaimed when they took power 2 and 1/2 years ago. So this must be a kind of cosmetic operation to make the administration look more respectable in the eyes of Americans and the world.

I see two reasons why the operation has come at this particular time. One is external, the other internal. Without a doubt Washington has certain fears about the final month of this year when it is planned to start deploying in Europe American medium-range nuclear missiles targeted on the Soviet Union. The fears spring from the massive anti-war movement in Europe. Europeans can hardly be pleased with the American talk about a limited nuclear war since they understand perfectly that Washington would like to limit the war to Europe. Hence the attempts to allay the fears of Europeans.

So much for the external reasons for the cosmetic operations. The internal reason has to do with the preparations for the presidential elections next year. There is no need to be a political strategist to understand the risks involved in appearing to be a warmonger, as some political rivals are calling the top Washington officials. So. the organizers of the Republican election campaign are trying to persuade Americans that President Reagan and his aides have nothing but peace on their mind: There are any number of facts that show the hypocrisy of such billing and cooing. I will mention just one. The lip service to peace comes at a time when Washington has launched a major military program. No other administration in American history ever placed so many orders with the munitions corporations. Last year alone the defense department signed contracts with these corporations to the sum of $116.7 billion. General Dynamics for one received munitions orders approaching $6 billion, McDonnel Douglas $5.63 billion, Lockheed $3.5 billion and Boeing $3.239 billion. Now can you imagine these corporations giving up billions in profits of their own free will and letting the administration cancel these orders? No and I cannot either. Nor can I imagine the administration aborting the huge military programs it has launched.

But unless this is done all the talk about peaceful intentions is not worth anything. It is impossible to add tremendous quantities of new systems to national stocks of nuclear missiles and at the same time (?try) to reduce the threat of war. You have to be really naive to believe an arms build-up will ensure Americans peace and security.

It will only prompt the Soviet Union to retaliate, so the danger of war will increase, not decrease.

The current campaign of smiles and peace talk in Washington can only deceive those who wish to be deceived.

U.S. MISSILE TESTS IN CANADA DRAW 'ANGRY PROTEST'

LD161623 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Ottawa July 16 TASS--Yielding to strong pressure on the part of the Reagan administration, the Government of Canada has agreed to the testing of U.S. cruise missiles in the country.

Canada's Defense Ministry said yesterday that the tests to begin in January 1984 would continue for five years over the territory of Alberta Province. Cruise missiles are to be launched from aboard B-52 bombers. It is planned to have four to six tests a year.

It is believed here that this move of the Canadian Government will draw bitter protests from anti-war organizations which strongly condemn Canada's participation in the dangerous nuclear arms race started by the Reagan administration. The signing of the Canadian-U.S. agreement on cooperation in the military field, providing for the testing different new types of U.S. weapons, shocked the country. A tide of angry protest has swept Canada. Thousands of letters and petitions were addressed to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau asking him to stand up to Washington's pressure and not to turn the country into a test range for the Pentagon. Scores of thousands of Canadians took part in anti-war demonstrations under the mottoes "down with cruise missiles" and "no to the Pentagon's preparations for a nuclear war."

FAILURE OF U.S.-PRC ATOMIC ENERGY TALKS REPORTED

LD152335 Moscow TASS in English 2152 GMT 15 July 83

[Text] Washington July 16 TASS--The U.S.-Chinese talks on bilateral cooperation in peaceful uses to atomic energy, held for several days here, ended in failure. The sides could not even tentatively chart the guidelines for an agreement in this field. A State Department spokesman said that the talks would be continued later, but didn't give any date.

XINHUA ON FEDORENKO MEETING WITH PRC AMITY GROUP

OW161018 Beijing XINHUA in English 0135 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, Jul 15 (XINHUA) -- Nikolay Trofimovich Fedorenko, vice-chairman of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, met the visiting Chinese Friendship associations delegation here today and had a friendly conversation with them.

The delegation, led by Liang Geng, represents the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries and the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. At noon, Chinese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Yang Shouzheng gave a banquet for their visit.

Earlier, the Chinese delegation visited factories, collective farms and schools in Leningrad and Kiev and met many friends from Soviet friendship organizations.

U.S. TO SELL MILITARY WEAPONS TO TAIWAN

LD161737 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Washington July 16 TASS -- In the next few days the Reagan administration is going to inform Congress that it is going to supply 530 million dollars' worth of weapons to Taiwan, THE WASHINGTON POST reports. This is one of the largest deals of that kind between the two countries, according to the POST. The list of future sales includes missiles, equipment for tanks, spares for planes, and other U.S.-manufactured military hardware.

The administration has made the move against the backdrop of repeated assurances concerning its allegiance to the joint U.S. Chinese communique on relations of both countries with Taiwan signed August 17, 1982. The document provides among other things for a gradual reduction of arms shipments to Taiwan.

According to the U.S. press, the scope of military cooperation between the United States and Taiwan has notably grown after the republican administration of President Reagan came to power. The volume of the proposed program of military aid to Taiwan in 1983-1984 notably surpasses that of the previous programs. In 1981 fiscal the value of arms sales to Taiwan stood at 330 million dollars. In two years since then it rose to reach 800 million. Last August the White House extended the term of a bilateral agreement under which Taiwan manufactures F-5E fighters under U.S. licenses. Next fiscal year the United States plans to supply 780 million dollars' worth of weapons to Taiwan. The mentioned facts demonstrate that Taiwan remains a major military outpost of the USA in the Far East, and that Washington continues to stick to the policy of "two Chinas."

JAPAN, USSR AGREE TO REGULAR DISARMAMENT TALKS

OW150057 Tokyo KYODO in English 0041 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 14 KYODO -- Japanese and Soviet officials agreed here Thursday to meet again in Tokyo next year for regular consultations over disarmament, Japanese sources said. The agreement was reached in the Japan-Soviet working-level talks attended by Shozo Kadota, head of the Foreign Ministry's United Nations Bureau, and Vladimir Fedrovich Petrovskiy, director of the International Organizations Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

During the discussions, Japan asked the Soviet Union to reduce or abolish SS-20 intermediate-range missiles in the eastern Soviet Union, the sources said. Soviet officials rejected the claim and said the missiles are deployed against nuclear threats targeted to the Soviet Union, according to the sources.

The Japanese and Soviet officials also exchanged views on Kampuchea and Afghanistan, the sources said.

Kadota is scheduled to meet Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa Friday.

JAPAN'S HATOYAMA VISITS USSR, SOVIET LEADERS

Meets Gromyko

LD151859 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS - Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received prominent figure of the Liberal-Democratic Party, deputy of parliament of Japan Iichiro Hatoyama today.

During the conversation Andrey Gromyko stressed the permanence of the general line of the CPSU and the Soviet state, aimed at removing the threat of war, ending the arms race, and improving international relations. The consistency of the efforts of the Soviet Union to establish relations of genuine good-neighbourliness with Japan was pointed out, and the readiness to develop Soviet-Japanese cooperation in different fields on the condition that a similar approach is adopted on the Japanese side was expressed.

Iichiro Hatoyama said that one should not attach significance to some of the statements made early this year on the Japanese side with respect to the Soviet Union. In Japan, he said, there is a widespread feeling, including in the ruling party, in favour of the development of Soviet-Japanese relations in different fields.

To this, the answer was given on the Soviet side that time will show whether Japan's policy is aimed at developing good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union, or it is subjected to other goals. In the USSR they will judge about Japan's policy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union by its practical deeds.

The conversation, held in a business like atmosphere, was attended by Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR M. Kapitsa, department chief of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR N. Solovyev, deputies of the Japanese parliament from the Liberal Democratic Party F. Abe and E. Nonaka, as well as by Japan's Ambassador to the USSR Masuo Takashima.

Confers With Kuznetsov

PM172145 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] On 13 July in the Kremlin V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received I. Hatoyama, vice president of the Japanese-Soviet Friendship Society and former Japanese foreign minister.

A talk was held in which Z.M. Kruglova, chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Presidium, and M. Takashima, Japanese ambassador to the USSR, took part.

Discusses Friendship

OW171445 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] A delegation of the Japan-USSR Friendship Association, led by Vice President Iichiro Hatoyama, member of the House of Councilors and a former foreign minister, has visted the Soviet Union. The delegation held talks with Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and with Foreign Minister Gromyko by calling on the latter at the Soviet Foreign Ministry. The delegation also visited the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, the Committee of Soviet Women, and the Soviet Ministry of Martime Fleet, holding talks with Guzhenko, chairman of the USSR-Japan Association and minister of the Soviet maritime fleet.

On 14 July, Vice President Iichiro Hatoyama gave a speech on Japan-USSR relations at a membership meeting of the USSR-Japan Association. After the speech, Vice President Hatoyama said the following in an interview he gave a Radio Moscow reporter at the Hall of Friendship of Peoples:

[Begin recording] I am Iichiro Hatoyama, vice president of the Japan-USSR Friendship Association. I had this opportunity of visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of USSR-Japan Association Chairman Kuznetsov and Chairman Kruglova of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

In Japan, people who are very much concerned about Japan-USSR relations are increasing in number. Therefore, I wanted to visit the Soviet Union very much. I came to meet Soviet leaders, to convey our feelings to them, and to explore and find ways for us to proceed in the future. I met leaders in various fields and found that everyone on the Soviet side approves of the improvement of Japan-USSR relations. Peace and friendship [words indistinct] are everything, and I heard important stories which I think were very significant. When I return to Japan, I intend to meet with Liberal Democratic Party leaders and with Prime Minister Nakasone to report to them on these subjects and to try to learn what course of action Japan should take.

During this trip I was able to visit Riga city in the Latvian SSR, and Leningrad, where I saw cemeteries, which I should call common bonds. In Riga city, a gathering to pledge that there will be no war between Japan and the Soviet Union will be held this coming August. It will be the second such gathering, and we want to make sure it will be a success. Frankly, I felt that the Soviet side is no less enthusiastic than the Japanese side concerning efforts to build lasting peace and friendship. In this connection, I think our visit was very fruitful.

I think we must now take concrete action. The peoples of the two countries need to further deepen mutual understanding. I firmly believe that doing so will also help to promote world peace. I think that we should further deepen our exchanges as well. Although exchanges in sports, the arts, and other cultural fields are being conducted continuously, government-level exchanges, exchanges of politicians, are somewhat insufficient, and they must be increased. Harboring suspicion against one another is a terrible situation. The holding of a dialogue in itself will lead to peace. In this sense we sincerely hope that Soviet leaders will visit Japan. I think that if conditions are maintained such exchanges will materialize before long. We hope for such a turn of events at the earliest possible date.

Regarding exchanges in other areas, we hope to realize exchanges of parliamentarians soon. We hope to achieve our plan to invite Supreme Soviet deputies to Japan at an early date. [end recording]

IZVESTIYA REPORTS SOVIET-JAPANESE CONSULTATIONS

PM151811 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report under general headline: "Consultations in Moscow"]

[Text] Soviet-Japanese consultations on questions of the agenda of the upcoming 38th UN General Assembly session were held 14-15 July at the USSR Foreign Ministry. The following took part: V.F. Petrovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; N.N. Solovyev, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Second Far East Department; S. Kadota, director general of the Japanese Foreign Ministry Department for UN Affairs; T. Takano, chief of the Japanese Foreign Ministry Disarmament Section; M. Tamba, chief of the Japanese Foreign Ministry USSR Section; and other executives of the two countries' foreign ministries.

USSR Deputy Foreign Minister M.S. Kapitsa received S. Kadota and M. Tamba and had a conversation with them on questions of mutual interest.

NAKASONE'S STANCE ON DISARMAMENT SCORED

OW171357 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Askold Biryukov commentary]

[Text] When Prime Minister Nakasone left for the recent Williamsburg summit, Japanese newspapers wrote as if Japan were ready to play its part in contributing to the limitation of nuclear armament in the European theater. They also wrote that Japan was ready to urge the creation of desirable conditions for the U.S.-Soviet Geneva talks on that question.

However, in the course of the Williamsburg summit, it was shown that Japan's concept of these desirable conditions is very much biased. Prime Minister Nakasone called for the deployment of new U.S. intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe more strongly than any other leaders of Western nations, including President Reagan himself, but in doing so, he obviously took no heed of the possibility that such an action might bring a dramatic deterioration of the situation, not only in Europe but in the world as a whole.

An increased threat to peace will be inevitable, but the Japanese Government representative shut his eyes to this fact. Prime Minister Nakasone resorted to every conceivable means in pressing the summit participants to attach a condition to the continuation of the European intermediate-range nuclear force [INF] limitation talks: that of coping with the INF talks on a global basis.

In other words, despite the fact that the Geneva talks involve only Europe, Japan maintains that they should be held on a global basis.

Japan also maintains that, in the event the Geneva talks are successful, the Soviet Union should never be permitted to redeploy its intermediate-range missiles to Asia from Europe.

What does this global basis actually mean? It means that Japan is trying to forsake the possible settlement of the Geneva talks by taking the same posture as the United States. However, the goal of the Geneva talks is to reach an agreement on the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments in Europe, and the Soviet Union and the United States must bring this matter to a settlement before anyting else.

The proposal on limiting and reducing nuclear arms in Europe, which the Soviet Union proposed, affords the possibility of reaching an acceptable accord in the process of the talks and guarantees a real balance of forces and true equality without giving an advantage to either side.

Therefore, the Japanese proposal for dealing with the Geneva talks on a global basis in order to reach a successful settlement undoubtedly has nothing to do with the talks. At this point, it might be better to remember who on earth is forgetful. The Japanese Government should know that the Soviet Union has time and again clarified its readiness to negotiate -- on a reciprocal basis, of course -- with those nuclear powers that are set against Soviet missiles on the limitation and reduction of missiles, including those that are deployed in the eastern region of our country.

It is utterly unreasonable to raise the issue of the Soviet Union's unilateral reduction and abolition of these missiles without due steps to be taken by the other side. But that is exactly what Japan is calling for.

There are intermediate-range nuclear arms deployed at U.S. military bases in the Far East -- from South Korea in north to Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean in south -- that are capable of striking all parts of Soviet Asia. According to press reports, the United States even intends to deploy these weapons in Alaska in the near future.

Therefore, to safeguard its safety against the nuclear missiles aimed at the Soviet Union from the Asian and Pacific region, the Soviet Union is naturally entitled to the right to possess as many various types of arms, including intermediate-range weapons, in its eastern region as it needs.

However, the problem does not lie in only Japan's diplomatic maneuvers to create obstacles to the settlement of the talks on the limitation of intermediate-range nuclear arms in the European theater. Japan's actual deeds are also obstructing the process of limiting and reducing these arms and therefore, the arms-reduction process in its entirety.

For instance, does the Japanese Government's approval of the deployment to Honshu of 48 U.S. F-16 fighter bombers, which are capable of carrying nuclear weapons, not have this specific aim? According to official announcements, the mission of these F-16's will be to strike Soviet bases in the Maritime Province and Sakhalin.

How should one interpret the Japanese Government's action in approving port calls in Japan by other nuclear arms-carrying vehicles targeted against the Soviet Union, that is, warships and submarines of the U.S. 7th Fleet? Furthermore, how should one view the fact of the introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan and their storage there?

Lieutenant General Donnelly, commander of the U.S. Froces in Japan, for example, told the UPI that the Japanese Government should soon approve the storage of nuclear bombs at U.S. military bases. There is no reason why the Japanese Government should not be aware of his remarks.

It is quite natural for the Soviet Union to be unable to ignore this new threat orginating in Japanese territory. Therefore, the posture taken by Japan's official authorities today does not help in the least to promote either arms reduction or the Geneva talks.

JAPANESE MAYORAL DELEGATION CONTINUES USSR VISIT

OW180137 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The Japanese delegation to the USSR-Japan conference of mayors of coastal cities is continuing its inspectin tour of the Soviet Union. The delegation, led by Mr Wakasugi, chairman of the Sea of Japan Coastal Mayors Society, attended a meeting arranged at the RSFSR Council of Ministers on July 14 after its arrival in Moscow from Leningrad.

AT the meeting Deputy Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers Lykova briefed the delegation on social and economic achievements in the republic.

The meeting proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. The two sides expressed their hope to develop good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Japan and promote mutually beneficial cooperation.

On the same day the delegation met with the leadership of the Soviet society for urban exchanges with foreign countries. The Japanese delegation also visited the Lenin Mausoleum and placed a floral tribute.

KADAR, DELEGATION ARRIVE IN MOSCOW 18 JUL

Gromyko, Others Welcome Kadar

LD181058 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 18 TASS -- A party and government delegation of the Hungarian People's Republic, led by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist worker's party, arrived in Moscow today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

At the airport, the guests were met by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, foreign minister of the USSR; Geydar Aliyev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR: Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

USSR-Hungarian Relations

For the Budapest Domestic Service "Background Conversation" program on the political and economic relationship of Hungary and the USSR presented by Eva Vertes with the participation of Matyas Szueroes, MSZMP Central Committee secretary, and Gyula Kovacs, deputy chairman of the Planning Office, prior to the visit to the USSR of a delegation led by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP, that is to begin 18 July, see the Hungarian section of the 15 July Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

SOVIET-ROMANIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY HAILED

SCINTEIA Marks Jubilee

PM141208 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jul 83 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Treaty Anniversary"]

[Text] Bucharest, 7 July -- The development of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union is a constant and consistent line in the policy of the RCP and the Romanian state, the RCP Central Committee organ SCINTEIA writes in an article "Firm Friendship, Fruitful Many-sided Cooperation."

With a feeling of warm friendship we recall these relations today when our peoples are marking an important event -- the 13th anniversary of the signing in Bucharest of the new Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between Romania and the USSR, the article notes.

Developing and enriching the fundamental provisions of the first treaty, which was concluded in 1948 and for a long time determined the development of Romanian-Soviet ties, the new document opened up broader and more fruitful prospects for further strengthening the fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between our countries and peoples.

Romanian-Soviet relations, based on complete equality, mutual respect, the principles of national independence and sovereignty, and international solidarity, serve the cause of socialism, progress, and peace on the planet.

The Soviet Union has held and constantly holds first place in Romania's foreign economic relations. Cooperation in the sphere of culture, art, and education is continuously expanding. Romania and the USSR cooperate actively in the international sphere, SCINTEIA emphasizes.

Our countries, the article states in conclusion, are consistently implementing the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, attach great importance to the problems of disarmament and the continuation of the policy of detente and cooperation, and are in favor of all peoples realizing their right to free and independent development.

'Profound Friendship'

PM151315 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN Russian 7 Jul 83 p 3

[Andrey Poltorak "Commentator's Opinion": "A Reliable Guide"]

[Text] It is 13 years today, since the Soviet-Romanian Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was signed.

The treaty represents an extensive program for the deepening and mutual development of relations which are so comprehensive that they embrace practically all spheres of the two countries' political, economic, and cultural life. The determining factor in the implementation of this program is the cooperation between the CPSU and the RCP and the meetings and talks between Soviet and Romanian party and state leaders.

In the spirit of the accords and decisions reached at high level, an extensive political dialogue and exchanges of experience in socialist building are conducted and consultations are organized on questions of mutual interest. Of particular significance is the long-term program for the development of specialization and production sharing between the USSR and Romania which enshrined the qualitatively new level in the economic cooperation between the two countries and outlined the prospects for its development within the framework of the socialist division of labor on the basis of mutual advantage.

In conducting an active foreign policy aimed at strengthening peace and mutual understanding between peoples, the Soviet Union, together with Romania, is struggling to reduce international tension, curb the nuclear arms race, and bring about a transition toward disarmament. The latest anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance offers the Soviet people the opportunity once more to express their feelings of profound friendship for the people of Romania and, simultaneously, their determination to continue to develop relations of fraternal friendship with them in the avenues outlined in the treaty.

HUSAK IN USSR FOR REST AT CPSU CC INVITATION

LD151437 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- General secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic Gustav Husak has come to the Soviet Union today for rest at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

IZVESTIYA ON MOTIVES BEHIND FRG-SAUDI ARMS DEAL

PM172247 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent A. Grigoryants dispatch under the "Behind the Scenes" rubric: "The 'Leopards' Leap"]

[Text] Bonn -- Federal Chancellor H. Kohl recently received an important guest at his private house in Ludwigshafen, Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan Al-Sa'ud.

The exotic visitor turned out to have particularly prosaic wishes. As DIE WELT reported, the possibility of exporting West German Leopard-2 tanks to Riyadh was discussed during the meeting. The subject under discussion concerned a major deal amounting to DM10-12 billion. The newspaper remarks that the chancellor showed understanding of his guest's wishes and in this connection paid tribute to Saudi Arabia's readiness to grant the FRG credit of 30 billion [currency not specified] on favorable terms.

It is to be noted that this is not the first time that Riyadh has tried to obtain supplies of West German military hardware. That it is making a fresh attempt at the present moment is not accidential. The change of those in power on the Rhine has altered the situation. "Industrialist circles," DER SPIEGEL writes, "are pressuring their political friends. For more than 1 month now military industry lobbyists have been knocking on every door in Bonn, confident of the powerful support of the Bavarian premier, Strauss, in whose 'free state' the major arms workshops are located." In principle, the weekly continues, the Bonn government has made a decision not to refuse military-technical cooperation with the kingdom. In fact this cooperation is already under way. Riyadh is being supplied with 155-1 field howitzers by roundabout routes via England. Soon the tractor units for them, which are manufactured by the Kloeckner-Humboldt-Deutz company, are also scheduled to be shipped. Direct cooperation comes next. Riyadh has submitted a request for 300 Leopard-2 tanks, 100 Gepard and Roland self-propelled antiaircraft units, Marder armored personnel carriers, and 200 Tornado multi-role combat aircraft -- which are being jointly produced by concerns in the FRG, Britain, and Italy.

The deal, an FRG Government spokesman stated, is at the discussion stage. The level at which it is being conducted is indicated by the following facts. The meeting held at the chancellor's home in Ludwigshafen was preceded by intense conversations in Geneva between the Christian Social Union leader, F.J. Strauss, his right-hand man F. Zimmermann, and a Saudi minister.

To appreciate the reasons for the particular activeness of these two figures one has to recall that the Leopard tanks are produced by the firm of Krauss-Maffei near Munich and that dozens of other Bavarian military-industrial companies will be taking part in the profitable deal. It is no accident that Bavaria is called the "El Dorado" of arms manufacturers. Large-scale facilities for the production of modern tanks, jet aircraft, and various combat missiles have been created here through Strauss' efforts.

The Saudis made their request to FRG Economics Minister O. Lembsdorff, who was recently their guest. Finally, the question of the Leopards will undoubtedly be discussed during the chancellor's forthcoming visit to Saudi Arabia in the fall. Krauss Maffei is already holding talks with Saudi representatives. It is reported that this contact was established with the knowledge and consent of the "relevant authorities."

The deal being prepared is one of many being concluded by West German military concerns. The FRG has already long been among the major arms exporters. But important changes are perceptible in its export policy.

For a long time a rule has operated in Bonn whereby the export of arms to "crisis regions in the world" has been formally forbidden. Every deal required state sanctioning. In reality, however, no bans were an obstacle to the military exporters. In the last decade, as by the press reports, 33 states which were placed on Bonn's restricted list were able to obtain missiles, guns, machineguns, and submarines from the FRG. Israel is among them. Still earlier the FRG Government weakened the existing rule under pressure from military concerns: It adopted new directives for laying down the conditions for arms export. The export of arms and military materiel is now permitted if "vital FRG interests" militate in its favor, that is to say, foreign policy consideration, including NATO ones.

It is precisely in this foreshadowed perspective that the deal that is now being prepared with Saudi Arabia is viewed. It confirms once again that the NATO bloc is expanding its sphere of activity step by step, including in its new geographical regions which are very distant from the shores of Europe. The oil-bearing Near East regions are to be first among them. They do not tire of repeating in Bonn that consultations will be held with the United States and Israel before the Saudis receive the Leopards. They are now making it known that Israel will not be left out either. And it, in particular, has asked Bonn more than once to sell it West German 120mm guns for mounting on tanks. Commenting on all this confidential information, DIE WELT demands that Israel should receive "appropriate compensation" and that Riyadh should in its turn embark on political concessions and discard the slogan of a "holy war" against Israel from its vocabulary. Whether he wished to or not, the DIE WELT commentator has essentially revealed the political truth behind the contemplated deal: Some people on the Rhine are hurrying to help Washington implement its anti-Arab Camp David course, while on the other hand trying to gain moral justification for direct military supplies to Israel.

It has been delicately conceived, but not for nothing is it said that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link. Bonn's embroilment in the Near East adventures of Washington and Tel Aviv does not bode well for it.

'DETAILS' OF FRENCH NUCLEAR FORCE EXPOUNDED

PM172140 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHSKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Jul 83 p 3

[C. Dadyants "Notes Apropos": "A Novel Without A Sequel"]

[Text] The French Defense Ministry invited foreign press representatives to visit French strategic nuclear force centers. A correspondent from the West German news agency DPA was among them. To all appearances he was impressed by what he saw of the French nuclear arsenal. From Brest, where the French nuclear submarines are based, he sent a dispatch which begins thus:

"In a period of a new minutes French President Francois Mitterrand can launch 132 missiles armed with nuclear warheads which will destroy life within a radious of between 800 and 3,500 km."

So they are talking about the "destruction of life" at a time when Soviet-American talks are being conducted in Geneva and the whole world is wondering how to prevent the world from sliding toward nuclear catastrophe!

France, who is threatened by no one, is increasing its nuclear potential rather than reducing it. It is even against its nuclear weapons being counted as part of the overall European strategic arms balance. Some days ago Defense Minister Charles Hernu confirmed that France has tested a neutron weapon -- one of the most barbaric means of mass human destruction.

But let us follow the plot of the kind of military detective novel which the DPA correspondent wrote about French nuclear strategy and first of all pay a visit to the Air Force command operations center in Taverny, approximately 25 km northwest of Paris. Here, "deep underground, in the center crammed with electronic equipment and computers, illuminated panels and cables, is the mechanism (of mass destruction -- G. Dadyants), which is complex but which operates in a matter of minutes and is just as efficient as those on the 5 (6 from 1985 on) nuclear submarines, each of which is armed with 16 nuclear tipped missiles."

The reader will learn that it is to Taverny that President Mitterrand will give the order to use nuclear weapons which will then be transmitted to the Plateau d'Albion, the site of 18 French ground-based nuclear missile silos. Once the order has been electronically decoded two officers in the computer center will begin to "simultaneously turn the two electronic keys similar to those used in automatic locks on the doors of any house.... Only then will the doors above the underground missiles slide open.... The missiles will soar skyward and head for their targets."

As for the submarines, they make 9-week voyages (3 are at sea at any one time) and the electronic brain of each of the 16 missiles "knows exactly what the missile's target is." The "targets" have already been planned and they "depend on the general secret strategy." What about moral objections? The commander of the submarine "Foudroyant," commissioned in 1974, described his crew's task as follows: "The vessel must function perfectly." The onboard computer will receive the president's coded message, which will obviously be a "complex combination of figures." The computer checks the figures and gives the order to open fire....

From the DPA correspondent's military detective novel the reader will learn all the intimate details of France's nuclear strategy. The megaton warheads will not be launched immediately. First of all the Mirage-4 aircraft, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, will fly off to "restrain the aggressor." Then France will be able to make a choice between the missiles on the submarines and the missiles on the Plateau d'Albion....

Why did the French Defense Ministry have to invite the foreign correspondents to its strategic centers?

"This year," the invitation says, "special attention is being paid to defense problems at international forums." Clearly, H. Hernu wants first to reassure his NATO allies that France is always prepared for a nuclear war.

Second, there is an obvious wish to stress the French nuclear forces' "independence." The references to President Mitterrand's orders are supposed to create the propaganda illusion that France will decide whether or not to use its forces independently and only in the interests of "restraining" a potential aggressor.

The illusions evaporate, however, when you look at France's new defense strategy, which is basically a switch from De Gaulle's "omnidirectional defense" to "defense in forward positions." French statesmen have talked much about France's indisputable membership of NATO and consequent readiness to fulfill its allied obligations. "France cannot be a neutral nuclear country," Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson said. Defense Minister Charles Hernu elaborated the concept of active military support for the allies from the onset of a crisis or conflict and also the subordination of the "operational strike" force, which France is setting up, to allied armed forces in central Eruope. During his visit to Bonn last October President Francois Mitterrand suggested to the West German Government, FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU worte, that they put forward "joint views" on "how to bring French nuclear weapons into line with the safeguarding of the security of German territory and airspace, that is, with German security."

In other words, this means "including the French nuclear threat in the NATO concept of deterrence."

The targets of the French nuclear missiles have also been determined entirely in line with this "independent policy." "These targets," the DPA correspondent writes, "may be 800 km away somewhere in southern Germany or 3,500-4,000 km away deep in Soviet territory."

If by inviting the foreign correspondents to Taverny and Brest Mr Hernu wanted to convince them that the French nuclear force is "independent" and the officers are "pacifists," he may have convinced public opinion of the opposite. If he wanted to state once again that France's nuclear potential should not be counted as part of the overall Eurostrategic balance, he missed his mark. Anyone with any intelligence at all who read the DPA correspondent's report would have realized that the French "deterrent force" is no toy.

The plot of the military detective novel about French nuclear strategy breaks off somewhere between the Mirage-4 aircraft taking off and the doors of the missile silos on the Plateau d'Albion opening. "Further details about this strategy are not known," the author modestly adds. The touching story of the French pacifists' love of megaton bombs is thus left without a sequel. But can a novel about launching nuclear strikes deep into Soviet territory have a sequel?

TEXT OF BASTILLE DAY GREETINGS TO MITTERRAND

PM162158 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To His Excellency Mr. Francois Mitterrand, president of the French Republic

On the occasion of France's national holiday -- Bastille Day -- the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium sends congratulations to you, Mr. President, and best wishes for prosperity to the French people.

We voice the hope that the traditional friendly ties between the Soviet and French peoples and their profound interest in preserving world peace and strengthening security on the European Continent will continue to be determining factors in the development of good relations between the Soviet Union and France.

[Signed] USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

SOVIET-ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY CONSULTATIONS HELD

LD151458 Moscow TASS in English 1157 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- Soviet-Italian consultations on the agenda of the forthcoming 38th Session of the U.N. General Assembly took place at the Soviet Foreign Ministry on July 14-15. They were attended by Vladimir Petrovskiy, member of the Collegium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, O. Solari Bozzi, the U.N. Department chief of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, and other responsible officials of the foreign ministries of the two countries.

Nikita Ryzhov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, received O. Solari Bozzi and had a conversation with him on questions of mutual interest.

RESULTS OF PLO WORKING VISIT TO MOSCOW VIEWED

Qaddumi 'Satisfaction' Cited

LD162150 Moscow in Arabic to Arab World 1500 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, the chairman of the Political Department of the PLO, expressed his satisfaction with the recent visit which the Palestinian delegation made to moscow. Faruq Qaddumi said, in a statement to WAFA in Tunis, that the Soviet Union has affirmed its principled support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people for its national rights.

During the working visit, the delegation was received by Andrey Gromyko, the Soviet Union's minister of foreign affairs. Both sides pointed out that the agreement with Israel, which has been imposed on Lebanon, violates the sovereignty of the Lebanese state and threatens the security of the neighboring Arab countries. The Soviet side pointed out that it considers it vitally important to strengthen the unity of the Palestinian movement.

Qaddumi on Talks

LD151735 Moscow in Arab to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The working visit paid by the PLO Executive Committee delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of its Political Department to the Soviet Union has ended. A joint communique was issued on the outcome of the talks between the Palestinian delegation and the Soviet delegation led by Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR Foreign minister.

Our correspondent, Sergey Yevgenev, who was received by Faruq Qaddumi on the evening of his departure from the Soviet Union, asked the head of the PLO Political Department to reply to some questions. Here is the talk that took place between them:

[Begin recording] [Yevgenev] Brother Abu al-Luft [Farqu Qaddumi], first of all, on behalf of Radio Moscow, I would like to congratulate you and wish you personally, the PLO, and the entire Palestinian people more successes in their struggle. The talks with the Soviet comrades, with the Soviet leaders have ended. During those talks, mention was made of the increasing tension in the region. (?What are) the reasons for this and what were the results of those talks?

[Faruq Qaddumi] No doubt, what Israel is doing in continuing its occupation of the Arab territories and of Lebanese territory, its continued presence there, and its barbaric practices inside the occupied territories in the West Bank and Gaza sector and in other occupied areas, are some of the causes of this tension. Israel's defiance of international public opinion's demand to withdraw -- and Israel should heed the international will and international resolutions on the need for it to withdraw from all Arab territories -- its practices and aggressive policy, all those things in addition to the aggressive U.S. policy supportive of Israel are the causes of all this tension in the region, which prevents the finding of a just political solution to the crisis in the Middle East and to the Palestinian issue being found.

The Palestinian people are still homeless, away from their country, while Israel, as I have said, is imprisoning them, detaining them, and carrying out the most abominable practices inside the occupied territories. Tension is increasing daily and leading to more wars in the region. Those are the causes of tension.

Regarding our talks with the Soviet leadership, and with Comrade Gromyko in particular, we would like to say that they were conducted in an atmosphere full of understanding, frankness and clarity. We evaluated all the developments in the Middle East and discussed aspects of our bilateral relations. During our successful talks we were able to evaluate, as I have said, all developments and to arrive at clear results between ourselves. [end recording]

USSR Support for 'Arafat

LD161933 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1756 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow 16 Jul (KUNA) -- The PLO delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department, left here today after winning, according to reliable Palestinian sources, the support of the Soviet Union for the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat.

The delegfation had talks described as intense and very important with the Soviet leadership and especially with the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko.

KUNA has learned from these sources that the Palestinian delegation placed before the Soviet leadership the most important problems which ahve emerged in the situation in the Middle East and specially the acute differences which occured between the organization and Syria and the rift within the Fatah organization, the largest unit of the Palestinian resistance.

The sources stressed that the delegation has scheduled to leave after a day or two of its visit; however, the visit was extended because the organization's delegation wanted clear and frank answers from the Soviet leadership on some questions it was carrying with it. They added that the delegation "was able to get all that it was seeking, and in a way more than it expected, from the Kremlin leadership." The sources added that the Soviet Union affirmed to Mr Qaddumi "its stand on the side of the PLO under, 'Arafat's leadership.

The Soviet leadership has also stressed that it will do its utmost to solve all the differences between Syria and the PLO and as quick as possible.

Sources close to the agency said "the Soviet Union was in continuous contact with Syria during the visit of the Palestinian delegation in Moscow." It is probable that Moscow will help in solving the existing differences within Fatah in addition to standing on the side of the Palestinian national liberation movement's march and assisting in the return to the ancestral land and the setting-up of its independent state.

Other agency sources have confirmed that "the Soviet Union will intensify its defensive military assistance to each of the PLO and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' to confront the Israeli American aggression against the Arab Palestinian people and the rest of the Arab people."

It was scheduled for Mr 'Arafat to visit Moscow in case the Palestinian-Soviet talks were impeded; however, the talks proceeded in the best possible way. Therefore, the delegation left Moscow very optimistic over the Soviet Union's fresh assistance. Hence, there is no urgency about 'Arafat's visit at the present time.

On the other hand, these sources stressed that "'Arafat might pay an official visit to Moscow after being briefed on the talks carried out by the organizations delegation with the Kremlin leadership."

Sources close to the PLO stressed that "The delegation left Moscow with a marvellous impression of Moscow's dedication to the Palestinian issue under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat and nobody else." However, Moscow has asked the Palestinian delegation to try to solve the intra-Fatah differences and those between the PLO and Syria by peaceful democratic means. It added that "the Soviet Union as before pledges that it never has and will never stop aiding the organization and the Arab Palestinian peoples militarily, materially and morally until the recovery of the last inch of the Arab territories occupied by Israel and its ally America."

LEBANESE POLITICIANS CITED ON DEVELOPMENTS

PM152046 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Special correspondent K. Geyvandov report: "The Near East: The Crisis Awaits Resolution"]

Excerpt] Beirut-Moscow -- During my stay in Beirut in the first week and a half of June, an important session of the Lebanese Communist Party Central Committee was held which heard and discussed a report by G. Hawi, secretary general of the party Central Committee. We met with Comrade Hawi after the session. This is what he said in the conversation in particular:

"We took a number of decisions which envisage strengthening and broadening the struggle against the Israeli occupation and in favor of restoring the country's national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity. The dangerous character of the so-called peace agreement with Israel imposed by the American Administration was emphasized, since it is leading to the dismemberment of Lebanon and its complete subordination to the American-Israeli plans."

Lebanese opinion on the "peace agreement" which the authorities signed with Israel was divided. Not into equal parts. But into a majority and a minority. The popular Lebanese weekly MONDAY MORNING, in the issue which came out on the anniversary of the Israeli aggression, had interviews with four of the country's prominent figures representing different communities and political tendencies. Three of them were opposed to the agreement and deployed weighty and convincing arguments to back up their position. This is the approximate correlation of supporters and opponents of this deal, although no one, naturally, has held a referendum on this particular problem. One main thesis of the "minority" in favor of its position goes as follows: Upon the agreement's implementation (if and when it is implemented!), Lebanon will get more than it got under the armistice agreement concluded in 1949 after the first Arab-Israeli war. They maintain that Tel Aviv has even agreed to return to the Lebanese six villages in the south which have been under occupation since that time. I was told this in Beirut by M. Mansur, general secretary of the Lebanese Information Ministry, in particular. All the other arguments he cited "in favor" were also related to the sides' conscientiously carrying out their commitments.

But the whole trouble is that Israel, in signing the agreement, and the United States, in urging it to do so, have put forward deliberately unacceptable conditions for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon which from the very outset have condemned it to nonfulfillment. One of the most energetic opponents of the Lebanese-Israeli deal, former President of the Republic S. Franjiyah, spoke about this at his weekly press conference in the city of Zgharta in the north of the country. He stated that the document imposed on the country by the American Administration creates a legal basis for consolidating the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory. Franjiyah subjected the demand of Washington and Tel Aviv for simultaneous withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian troops to sharp criticism.

This formulation of the issue, he emphasized, equates the Syrian troops, which are friendly to Lebanon and which were brought into the country and remain there at the request of the lawful Lebanese authorities and by decision of the Arab League, with the Israeli Army, which carried out a bandit attack on our people and has occupied a considerable part of the country. The aggressor must withdraw his troops from Lebanon immediately and without any prior conditions, Franjiyah demanded.

Today, even among the Lebanese authorities, there is mounting concern that the development of events will take precisely the path foreseen by the opponents of the agreement concluded under the U.S. aegis. Prime Minister S. Al-Wazzan, as is obvious from his recent remarks, is particularly worried by the prospect of the implementation of Israel's declared intention of partially redeploying its troops in Lebanon to the accompaniment of fanfares about the alleged unilateral withdrawal of its armed forces from the country. The transparency of this ruse by Tel Aviv is obvious to all. No unilateral withdrawal of the Israeli occupiers' troops will take place, of course. But by withdrawing them to the frontier of the 45-km "security zone" in the south envisaged by the "peace agreement," the Israelis are counting on achieving at least two aims: to consolidate their position for a long time in the south of Lebanon and to begin effectively the process of dismembering the country.

On the basis of my meetings and conversations in Lebanon it can be concluded that the growing U.S. military presence there is causing the country's public equal worry. For example, at the point where we got into a traffic jam, outside the little town of Khaldar on the road leading to the south, the quite long stretch of the Mediterranean coast which has been transformed into the main military base for the contingent of U.S. troops from the "multinational forces" ends. Judging by all accounts, the American Marines intend to settle here in earnest and for a long time. They are fortifying their position in every way on the stretch of shoreline that they occupy and are rehearsing a system of coordination with the U.S. naval squadron permanently anchored in the roadsteads here. This is all taking place within the framework of the Pentagon's plans to steadily build up its military strike force in this region. Marine units, together with the newly arrived "Green Berets," have set up a special training ground in the area of Beirut international airport where they are training the Lebanese Army in their own image and spending the hundreds of millions of dollars allocated by Washington for these ends.

Since the Israeli aggression, the main highway linking Lebanon and Syria is often closed, and in order to get to Damascus I had to set out by a circuitous route via the north Lebanese city of Tripoli. It is always a particular pleasure to visit this city, which is the second largest in Lebanon, because many friends of our country live and work there. Among them is R. Karami, prominent state figure and former prime minister. He began our conversation by giving a high assessment of the Soviet Union's stance during the Lebanese crisis and on the problem of a Near East settlement. Karami condemned the Lebanese-Israeli agreement imposed by Washington and spoke of the steps being taken to extend the struggle to expel the Israeli occupiers from the country and of the strengthening solidarity in this struggle between the Lebanese and Syrian peoples and the Palestinian resistance movement. Speaking of ways of resolving the Lebanese crisis, he observed:

"The Lebanese crisis is one fragment of the Near East conflict. After all, the main aim of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon was to strike against the Palestinian resistance movement and Syria. It is obvious, therefore, that a satisfactory resolution of the Lebanese crisis can be secured only within the framework of a general, just Near East settlement. While supporting the pan-Arab principles formulated in Fes for that kind of way out of the conflict, which are similar to the Soviet proposals, we are also completely in favor of convening an international conference with the participation of all interested parties, including the Soviet Union and the PLO."

Listening to R. Karami, I remembered a meeting with E. Hunayn, parliamentary deputy and secretary general of the "Lebanese Front," which had taken place in Beirut some days earlier. He too had spoken warmly about our country:

"The Soviet Union has adopted a firm position, supporting Lebanon's national sovereignty, independence, and freedom. We are grateful to it for this. The Near East is situated in direct proximity to the Soviet Union's frontiers. It is essential, therefore, to recognize the USSR's legitimate interest in the state of affairs in the region. From this it can be concluded that it is impossible to find a just resolution of either the Lebanese crisis or the Near East problem without the USSR's active participation...."

The Israeli aggression continues and the Lebanese crisis awaits resolution, although there are in the country today, as the Lebanese have calculated, already more than 100,000 foreign troops from 16 different countries. But I should not like to end this account on a pessimistic note. While I was in Beirut, I saw a newspaper report that government organizations have already developed a 10-year restoration plan for Lebanon which will cost almost $15 billion. Of this sum, it is planned to spend $5 billion on housing construction. Knowing the enterprise, resourcefulness, and diligence of the Lebanese, there can be no doubt that they will implement what has been planned...after the final expulsion of the Israeli occupiers from the country.

IZVESTIYA CITES SYRIA'S KHADDAM ON U.S. POLICY

PM172118 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Konstanin Geyvandov under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "How U.S. Promises Turned Out"]

[Excerpt] Of course, officially the U.S. Secretary of State's visit to the Near East, organized, the Americans claim, off the cuff, was undertaken to achieve the start of the implementation of the agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli troops concluded between Israel and Lebanon under U.S. patronage. Here, no one in Washington is likely to have been embarrassed by the fact that the U.S. Administration's representative, in seeking to resolve this question, again went to Syria for some reason in an attempt to get Damascus to associate itself with the Lebanese-Israeli "peace agreement." However, this time too, the Syrians displayed firmness and categorically refused to take part in the crushing deal foisted on Lebanon by the United States and Israel. Nonetheless, after his talks in Damascus Secretary of State Shultz considered it essential to draw attention to the creation of a joint U.S.-Syrian "working group" to continue the dialogue, while President Reagan, THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, for his part has promised "in no way to ease up the pressure on Syria."

This is Western press speculation. But here is what Syrian Foreign Minister "A. al-Hakim Khaddam said in a talk with me in June in Damascus, setting out the Syrian position:

"Syria is fully determined to oppose by all available means the intrigues of U.S. imperialism and Zionism in the Near East. We will continue to demand an end to the Israeli aggressors' occupation of Lebanon. Our country categorically rejects the so-called 'peace agreement' foisted on the Lebanese people by the United States and Israel. Syria firmly adheres to this position, proceeding from the interests of the Lebanese people and the Syrian and other Arab peoples and the interests of international peace and security both in the Near East and throughout the world.

"The U.S. Administration's frenzied attempts to create at least the semblance of the initiation of a deal on Lebanon are explained by no means least by considerations relating to the presidential election campaign. According to White House advisers working out election strategy, against the background of the overall negative foreign policy balance, the present U.S. Administration needs some kind of "effective action" for success at the 1984 elections. They suggested that favorable opportunities for carrying out such an action are being opened up in the Near East, considering particularly promising the attempts to overcome, if only in their own, American way, the consequences of Israeli aggression in Lebanon. What the practical results of this activity of Washington's are can be seen graphically in the way events are developing on Lebanese soil. Indeed, you ask, what initiatives acceptable to the Arabs can the U.S. Administration put forward without violating its commitments as a 'strategic ally' to Israel? Daily practice shows that there are none.

"That is why the United States is resorting to the tried and tested 'divide and rule' policy. It is gambling on splitting the Arab ranks and aggravating relations between the Arab countries with the aid of generous promises to the leaders of each individual Arab state, knowing full well in the majority of cases that it does not intend to fulfill them. Issuing these promises left and right, the United States is counting on tempting the Arabs with the 'advantages' of a one-sided orientation toward Washington and thus wresting one Arab country after another from the pan-Arab ranks, drawing them into the notorious Camp David process. Even a simple list of the Arab capitals -- Riyadh, Beirut, Damascus, Amman, and Cairo -- included in the itinerary of Secretary of State Shultz' recent visit to the Near East can serve as convincing confirmation.

"I think, however, that the history of relations with the United States has already taught the Arabs a good deal. And above all that U.S. promises turn out for them to mean Israeli occupation and annexation of ever new Arab territories and a virtual deadlock in resolving the fundamental problem of the Near East crisis, the Palestinian question -- a deadlock which has continued for decades and has been accompanied by constant tension, uncertainty, fear, and instability in the region. To a large extent the recent actions of the U.S. Administration also promote the further aggravation of the already critical situation in and around Lebanon.

SYRIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD161743 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] An economic delegation from Syria has arrived in Moscow for talks on expanding cooperation in oil prospecting and extraction. Syria, with Soviet asistance, discovered extensive oil fields and established six oil installations. The USSR also gives aid in developing the oil industry to Algeria, Libya and India. In India, Soviet specialists refuted the allegations of Western experts to the effect that the country has oil resources to speak of and has discovered dozens of oilfields.

USSR DELEGATION TO ARRIVE IN SYRIA FOR TALKS

LD162243 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] A Soviet delegation will arrive in Damascus within the next 24 hours on an official visit of several-days to Syria, during which it will direct a series of talks with Syrian senior officials concerning the current situation in the area in light of the recent developments in both the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas, in addition to a number of international developments and issues of mutual interest.

CPSU POLITBURO MEETS, DISCUSSES MARCHAIS VISIT

LD151709 Moscow TASS in English 1703 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has considered at its regular meeting the results of the meeting between a delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by Yuriy Andropov and a delegation of the French Communist Party led by Georges Marchais.

The Politbureau approved the joint statement of the delegations of the CPSU and the FCP and stressed the great importance of the meeting and the document adopted by it for the further extension of relations of friendship and solidarity between the two parties, and also the growing community of their approach to the most important questions of the present-day international situation, of the struggle for peace and detente, and for curbing the arms race. It was noted with satisfaction that the CPSU and the FCP held the identical views that the interests of the Soviet and French peoples and the cause of peace and security in Europe and all over the world demand concord, friendship, and cooperation between the USSR and France, between the peoples of the two countries.

The meeting of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee examined additional measures to extend the rights of industrial production amalgamations (enterprises) in planning and economic management and to enhance their responsibility for the results of their work. These measures, stemming from the decisions of the 26th party congress and subsequent plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee on improvements in the economic mechanism, were drafted with the participation of a broad range of managers of enterprises, officials of ministries and departments, union republics, and also scientific workers and practical specialists. They reflect the proposals voiced by managers of enterprises and scientists and also the critical remarks and proposals published by the press.

The resolution adopted by the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on this question and relevant government decrees aim to improve the planning of the work of the main element of industry-production amalgamations and enterprises; to create conditions stimulating highly-productive work with good quality, initiative, and socialist enterprise; and to ensure the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the intensification of production. These measures are aimed at the further improvement and strengthening of the centralized management of the economy in combination with the development of democratic principles in the management of the national economy, with the enhancement of the role of work collectives in running enterprises and amalgamations, and with the large-scale introduction of cost accounting. To this end it is envisioned to carry out in a number of industries an economic experiment to extend the rights of production amalgamations and enterprises in planning and economic activity and to enhance their responsibility for the results of their work. A summary of that resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the Council of Ministers of the USSR will be carried by the centrally published press.

In view of the large-scale development of the construction of atomic power stations and their operation, the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee approved the proposals of the Council of Ministers of the USSR on additional measures to raise the dependability and safety of such power stations and also on the need to establish a state committee of the USSR to enforce safety regulations in atomic power engineering.

The Politbureau heard a report of the Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee and the Committee of People's Control of the USSR on gross violations of state discipline on the art of the heads of individual ministries and departments and the organisations reporting to them in designing, building and operating production, communal and cultural projects in the city of Volgodonsk.

Strict penalties have been imposed on the officials guilty of those violations. It was taken into consideration that the Council of Ministers of the USSR, the appropriate ministries and departments and local party and government bodies would take proper measures to remove the consequences of drawbacks in designing and building industrial, communal, and cultural projects in the city.

The Politubureau considered information about a meeting with a delegation of the Lebanese Communist Party led by George Hawi at the CPSU Central Committee and discussed certain other questions of the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

ARISTOV APPOINTED USSR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

PM161732 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 83 First Edition p 6

[Unattributed "Chronicle" report]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade Boris Ivanovich Aristov USSR deputy foreign minister.

PENTECOSTALISTS' DEPARTURE FOR ISRAEL REPORTED

LD170429 Moscow TASS in English 1807 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- As a TASS correspondent was told, the Soviet competent authorities have permitted, in the established order, departure at invitation for Israel of the family of Pyotr Chmykhalov, member of the sect of Pentecostalists from the town of Chernogorsk in Krasnoyarsk territory. Pyotr Chmykhalov has left together with his wife and other relatives for Moscow for subsequent departure abroad.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON SOVIET MEDIA FAILINGS

PM171831 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 12 Jul 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Party's Combat Arsenal"]

[Text] The mass media and propaganda rightly have a leading role in the party's ideological activity. The press, radio, and television, the CPSU Central Committee Plenum noted, are a powerful weapon for working people's communist education and organization.

Over 8,000 newspapers, ranging from central newspapers to plant newspapers; nearly 1,500 journals; 85 million television sets; and the provision of radio facilities to the entire country -- such as the potential of the mass media now. One cannot fail to see that tangible changes have taken place in their activity in recent years. Journalists' intervention in life has become increasing active, items have become more topical and timely, and a desire to hold an interested and confidential dialogue with readers, viewers, and listeners, has been noticed.

The most important function of the press is to vividly and convincingly convey to people's consciousness the truth about Soviet foreign policy, to exert an effective influence on world public opinion, and to unmask the imperialist circles' plans. We are now dealing with attempts by anticommunism to organize veritable information and propaganda intervention against the socialist community countries. The class enemy is openly declaring his intention of eliminating the socialist system and is calling for a new "crusade" against communism.

Imperialism sees "psychological warfare" as one of the main means of achieving its aims. The world ideological struggle knows no respite, and in that struggle the leading role belongs to the mass media, which are called upon to launch broad-cause offensive counterpropaganda work.

Much has been done. However, those positive changes should not be overestimated since essentially only the first few steps have been taken along the path of improving the quality and efficiency of information and propaganda work. The successful resolution of this crucial task depends on ensuring a high degree of efficiency of our journalism and its ability to satisfy Soviet people's spiritual requirements on a scientific basis and from a position of realism.

As readers' and viewers' letters attest, those requirments are far from being fully met at present. Soviet people write with justification that they are dissatisfied with the content and timeliness of information and the impersonal and stereotyped forms in which it is presented.

The most important shortcoming -- and this should be said with the utmost frankness -- is that our press, radio, and television often avoid analysis of the complex socio-political, economic, and moral problems that are engendered by life itself. Instead of an in-depth examination of them and a search for ways of resolving them, readers, listeners, and viewers are frequently offered articles and programs containing irksome lectures and stereotyped appeals to "strive," "intensify," and "improve."

Unfortunately, local newspaper items are still too often full of solemn statements and boastful assurances about the fulfillment and overfulfillment of production pledges. The June plenum pointed out that we have an abundance of braggerts who make various facile assurances but when the time comes to sum up the results they are unsatisfactory.

The question of criticism in newspapers should be dwelt on in particular. When defining the place and role of criticism, we proceed from the function of the party press, which is called upon not only to illuminate and to inform but also to perform the function of organizing and mobilizing the working masses to resolve particular tasks. The press, radio, and television are effective when they investigate main and vitally important problems; raise urgent questions for discussion in a timely way; skillfully involve their readers, viewers, and listeners in discussing them; and support what is new and progressive. The party press' social prestige is measured not by the number of problems it raises but by the depth of its explanation of them and its ability to suggest ways of resolving them. A criticial article, the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum stressed, is not an object of sensation to us but a warning whose real point is to rectify shortcomings. Criticism is a sharp weapon, and it is incumbent on journalists to know how to use it without devitating from principles and objective positions.

Concern to increasee the mass media's efficiency and the effectiveness of its articles prompted the CPSU Central Committee plenum to raise in a principled way the question of the responsibility of party, soviet, and economic organs and the personal responsibility of leaders for acting on criticial press, radio, and TV items. It is well known that localistic and parochial interests which seriously hamper our press efficiency are a frequent obstacle here. It is now rare to find a leader who considers it possible not to respond to a newspaper article. Instead a considerable number of "craftsmen" have appeared who have achieved an unprecedented level of sophistication in the art of writing purely formalistic replies.

Here is just one example. A year has already passed since SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA published a series of items on the rational use of waste paper, a valuable secondary raw material for the national economy's needs. Executives of the USSR Gosplan and Gossnab, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, and Tsentrosoyuz met at an editorial office "round table." And what was the result? Assurances were given: We "acknowledge," we will "examine," we will "study," but to date no firm measures have been taken and the situation regarding the use of waste paper remains unchanged. The demands put forward by the CPSU Central Committee plenum boil doun to ensuring that party committees which proclaim the need for criticism should seriously support it by means of their party authority.

The effectiveness of the press, radio, and TV largely depend on the level of journalistic skill. The rise in Soviet people's educational and cultural standards is now placing increased demands on journalists' professional skill. We cannot tolerate elements of stereotyped work in our press and the absence of an individualized creative outlook in many periodicals. It is by no means rare to find reports, commentaries, editorials, and articles dealing with specific problems in newspapers and journals which lack in-depth generalizations or fresh ideas. The reasons for such phenomena are connected with inertia, laxity of thought shortcomings in journalistic skill, and an inability and, on occasions, even a reluctance to overcome monotony of theme and genre. The CPSU Central Committee June Plenum called on journalists to search tirelessly for interesting and meaningful new forms and genres which fittingly reflect our time. "Every publication," K.U. Chernenko noted in the report at the plenum, "and every article must attract and try to persuade people by the depth of its penetration of life, the principled nature and acuteness of its thought, and the vividness of its style."

The interests of further increasing the mass media's efficiency give rise to the need to implement some constructive measures to improve the structure of newspapers and journals. Rayon and city press problems are becoming particularly urgent. Experience attests that in terms of content many still often copy central newspapers and do not fully satisfy their readers' demands. Here, for example, is what A. Klenyushin from Parskoye village in Ivanovo Oblast writes to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA: "Very often our RODNIKOVSKIY RABOCHIY is full of materials and reports already familiar to us from central and oblast newspapers and radio and TV broadcasts. At the same time, events on the neighboring kolkhoz often remain unnoticed by newsmen and become prey to rumors." And we receive quite a few such letters. The work of the rayon and city press, the CPSU Central Committee plenum noted, must be improved by highlighting local life in greater depth and by increasing the professional skill of journalist cadres.

A number of professional and departmental newspapers and journals do not fully meet Soviet people's present increased demands. Many of them are not very popular and they require quite a lot of paper, resources, and printing equipment. At the same time the demand for a number of mass publications for children, young people, and some other groups is still not fully satisfied.

Transforming the mass media into a true platform of party and public opinion depends most directly on the level of party leadership of the press. That is where the main reserve for increasing its social prestige and effectiveness lies. Unfortunately, as the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum noted, considerable shortcomings persist in the party leadership of the press. Most typical in this respect is the appearance of the two main extremes: Party committees either forget their newspapers or conversely hamper their initiative with petty tutelage.

Throughout the country there is an interested discussion in progress on the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum's materials.

During the discussion Communists and non-party people have been paying particular attention to questions of further improving the work of the press, radio, and television and have been making interesting proposals and useful recommendations. As Comrade Yu.V. Andropov stressed in his speech at the plenum, it is necessary "to make more correct use of all these resources and to apply them more actively and creatively, bearing in mind, in particular, the considerably increased level of Soviet people's education and requirements." The task of party committees and editorial collective consists in ensuring that proposals and advice are implemented and that an effective influence is exerted on further raising the efficiency of the mass media -- the party's mighty weapon in the struggle for communism.

ZNANIYE SOCIETY HOLDS PLENUM ON PROPAGANDA

PM172029 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Improving Propaganda in Lecture Form"]

[Text] A joint plenum of the boards of the all-union Znaniye society, the RSFSR Znaniye society, and the central council of people's universities held on 8 July discussed the tasks of further improving propaganda in lecture form and the activity of the society's organizations in the light of the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) plenum decisions.

Keynote speaker Academician N.G. Basov, chairman of the all-union Znaniye society board, and those who spoke noted that the society's organizations are paying great attention to propagandizing Marxist-Leninist theory, the historic achievements and advantages of real socialism, and the party's economic strategy.

The plenum was addressed by B.I. Stukalin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department.

Participating in the plenum's work were G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and P.K. Luchinskiy and R.C. Yanovskiy, deputy chiefs of CPSU Central Committee sections.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS PRESENTS SCIENCE AWARDS

PM172031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Awards Presented to Prizewinners"]

[Text] The 1983 USSR Council of Ministers prizewinners' diplomas and badges in the scientific and technical sphere were presented to a large group of scientists and specialists in the Kremlin's Sverdlovskiy hall in Moscow on 7 July.

Presenting the awards, G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, and I.F. Obraztsov, RSFSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education, cordially congratulated the prizewinners and wished them further creative successes.

CPSU'S SHCHERBITSKIY ON UKRAINE CADRE POLICY

PM131101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jul 83 First Edition p 2

[Article by V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee under the rubric "Regarding the 80th Anniversary of the Second Russian Social Democratic Workers Party Congress: "Success Is Determined by Cadres"]

[Text] The CPSU is approaching its glorious 80th anniversary. Our great party has traveled a heroic path of struggle and victories unequalled in history. That path has passed through the crucible of three revolutions, the trials of the civil war and Great Patriotic War and the years of creative building.

The recent CPSU Central Committee plenum convincingly demonstrated to the whole world the party's unshakable loyalty to its Leninist general course and defined the next major scientifically-validated tasks of economic and cultural building.

The theoretical and ideological-political platform of the plenum's decisions consists to a great extent of the topical propositions and conclusions formulated in the utterances of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and in his policy speech at the Central Committee plenum.

The communists and working people of the Soviet Ukraine, like all Soviet people, unanimously approve the decisions of the plenum and the eighth USSR Supreme Soviet session and the election of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Perceiving the party's policy as their own, which meets the people's vital interests, the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia support it by their labor for the good of the motherland.

Cadre policy holds one of the most important, crucial places in the CPSU's revolutionary transforming activity. And that is natural. After all, it is in the selection and placement of cadres in accordance with their political and professional qualities, skill, work experience and capabilities that the party's leading role is implemented for all to see.

V.I. Lenin, the leader and creator of our party and state, stressed that "policy is conducted via people" and that after the correct political line is drawn up and the latest tasks defined, the success of the cause is determined by organizational work, by people and by cadres.

In all its multifaceted activity, the party has always been and continues to be steadfastly guided by Leninist principles of work cadres. We can all see how purposefully and skillfully the CPSU Central Committee carries out its cadre policy, constantly taking into account the changing conditions and determining practical tasks in the selection and placement of cadres and in inculcating in them a high degree of political maturity, efficiency, and a sense of personal responsibility for the successful solution of the tasks that have been set. "In its work with cadres," the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 80th anniversary of the Second Russian Social Democratic Workers' Party Congress" says, "the party strives to ensure that all sectors of party, state, economic and cultural-educational activity are manned by politically mature people with a lofty sense of morality who are competente, resourceful and possess organizational abilities and a sense what is novel."

The CPSU's experience in formulating and implementing adre policy is of perennial historical significance. In the resolution of cadre problems, as in its entire activity, the party has always focused its attention on the main, primary link in the chain of highly complex tasks, has consistently implemented a course of forming cadres from among the best respresentatives of the working class and peasantry, and has promoted them to responsible work in party, state, social and economic organs. In this respect it has been guided by the principle of proletarian internationalism paying particular attention to cadre training in the national republics.

Thanks to the constant concern of our party and its Central Committee, highly skilled cadres have been formed in the Ukrainian SSR for all sectors of the national economy, science and culture, a firm cadre reserve has been created and favorable conditions have been established for reinforcing decisive areas promptly with workers capable of ensuring the implementation of the qualitatively new tasks of our dynamic time.

Over 5.6 million specialists are now working in the Ukrainian national economy of whom over 2.3 million have higher education. Nearly 1.8 million of those specialists are CPSU members or candidate members.

Our party's chief resource is its aktiv, the tried and tested leading personnel of party, soviet and economic organs. It is characteristic that at present all the republic's party obkom, gorkom and raykom secretaries and oblispolkom, gorispolkom and raysipolkom chairmen have received a higher education and that 75 percent of them are experts in industry or agriculture. Ten years ago that indicator was 55 percent. Nearly 60 percent of party obkom, gorkom and raykom secretaries here have had party political training. Virtually all leaders of enterprises and associations of leading industrial and construction sectors, sovkhoz directors and kolkhoz chairmen have received a higher or secondary specialized education.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee directs the party's obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms to set up an efficient system in cadre work. It is a questin of ensuring that this work is conducted on the indestructible basis of democratic centralism, that party committees have a good knowledge of the state of affairs regarding the provision of cadres for all areas of the national economy, science and culture and that they take daily care to create an effective reserve.

The republic's party organizations have accumulated a multifaceted experience of cadre work. In our view, the end results of leaders' work and their ability to promptly and qualitatively resolve specfic economic-political and ideological-educational tasks are the main criteria for evaluating their activity. Reports by economic leaders to party committees and laborcollectives, for example, are widely practiced. When discussing such reports, the Kiev city party organization pays attention primarily to how the unity of political-educational and organizational work is ensured and to how tasks of particular importance to the city -- increasing the production volume without increasing the number of workers and making efficient use of work time -- are resolved.

Personal interviews between party committees and party members and candidate members, including communist leaders, have given a good account of themselves. In Kharkov Oblast, for example, such interviews resulted in the transfer of nearly 4,000 communists to slipshod sectors, 50 percent of which are already working steadily. Increasing the responsibility of leading cadres and experts and developing their creative activeness has been a great help in ensuring that the oblast's industry is now increasing its output without increasing the numbers of workers and without additional expenditure of the main types of raw-materials and energy resources.

Higher and continually rising demands are being made on cadres of all levels under present-day conditions when not only the scale but also the complexity of the tasks being resolved have increased immeasurably and when the task of accelerating the transfer of the economy to a primarily intensive development path and the organic combination of the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution with the advantages of socialism has been raised with particular urgency. In addition to such indispensable qualities as political maturity and competence, particular significance attaches to an acute sense of what is new, a sense of personal responsibility for the job in hand, a creative attitude to one's duty, concern for people and the ability to actively overcome difficulties, to display what is called a militant character and ultimately to achieve one's set goal.

In cadre work, it is very important not only to promptly support a worker's businesslike venture or initiative but also to know when to guard against rash deeds and actions and to point out shortcomings. Many party obkoms, gorkoms and raykoms and bureau sessions discuss bureau members' work style in a comradely atmosphere and in a frank and principled way and make specific comments. In our view, that is an effective form of educating leaders and of increasing their sense of personal responsibility.

The Ukrainian Community Party Central Committee regularly holds businesslike conferences with party obkom first secretaries, oblispokom chairmen and republic ministry and department leaders which, on the basis of a detailed analysis, discuss progress in the fulfillment of party congress and CPSU Central Committee plenum decisions, generalize the best experience of party committees' organizational and ideological work, criticize shortcomings in a concrete and incisive way and indicate ways of eliminating them.

The ability to create a businesslike mood, a healthy moral and political atmosphere, and a situation of high exactingness and creativity in the collective is the modern leader's inalienable feature. That ability does not come easily or straight away. It develops with political and moral maturity.

If you asked a working man what qualities marked out a leader who was respected in the collective, and what formed the basis of his prestige, I believe that he would answer that such a leader must be politically mature, absolutely honest, demanding of himself and others, possess an enviable capacity for work, be wodely read, sociable and accessible and have the ability to win people over and make them follow him.

We are aware that not all leaders, including party workers, have fully made those qualities their own yet. Some of them do not possess -- as they should -- the necessary modern methods of leading and educating people. It is party organizations' most important task, therefore, to show constant concern for the businesslike training of cadres, to instill in them the need to master the science of management and to be able to find their bearings in new social phenomena, to evaluate them correctly, to look to the future and to promptly take comprehensively balanced and well-conceived decisions.

Each year a large detachment of leading party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol workers study at the CPSU Central Committee's Academy of Social Sciences institute for improving qualifications, the USSR Academy of the National Economy Institute of National Economic Management and other union academic establishments. Over 9,500 party and soviet workers and journalists have undergone training at the CPSU Central Committee Academy of Social Sciences and higher party schools in the last 10 years. Each year, 1,400 people improve their skills at courses at the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee's Higher Party CCSchool and nearly 13,000 do the same at oblast permanent courses and seminars for working party organizations secretaries.

The republic's institute of national economic management and dozens of other institutes, hundreds of specialized courses and schools under ministries, departments, Vuzes and technical colleges, educational-course combines, and schools subordinated to secondary agricultural educational establishments being used to improve the qualifications of economic leaders, specialists and scientific teaching cadres.

Of course, cadre training does not amount merely to study. We are striving to ensure that cadres grow naturally, that is to ensure that only communists who have been schooled in work at a lower level are promoted to more responsible duties and that a comrade who has been recommended for a more important post has done sufficient work and has a good knowledge of the work of subordinate organizations and lower echelons.

The process of molding a leader is not only complex but also creative and continuous. It is an amalgam of personal capacity for work and a desire to constantly study and to improve one's political and professional qualities and is influenced by the party organization's organizational and educational work and the moral and psychological climate in a particular labor collective. An atmosphere of mutual exactingness, demandingness and principledness are the necessary conditions for developing the best human qualities, the organizational abilities and talent of a leader. And that talent is revealed, honed and asserted in the process of practical work and during the tackling of specific tasks.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee proceeds from the premise that for the comprehensive assertion of a creative and innovative approach to matters it is necessary to eradicate more resolutely all instances of irresponsibility, excessive caution, formalism and stereotyped work which cause tangible harm and lead to attempts by individual leaders to offload their express duties onto others. Such an approach is dangerous because it engenders among workers passivity, indifference and the notorious Philistine stance that it is "nothing to do with me."

I shall quote one of the many examples which show that success is possible in any area, even the most difficult, if matters are undertaken by creative, resourceful and energetic people.

I have had more than one occasion to meet with Hero of Socialist Labor Vladimir Ivanovich Ostapchenko, first secretary of the Nikopolskiy party raykom in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. I have known him a long time and never cease to marvel at this inexhaustible energy, drive, and, I would even say, particular fervor for what is new and advanced. Nikopolskiy Rayon can rightly be called a laboratory of advanced experience both on the plane of resolving socioeconomic tasks and on the plane of work on educating cadres and developing the activeness of communists of whom the rayon party organization now has nearly 3,000. Since the 26 CPSU Congress the rayon has formulated and has been implementing six comprehensive targeted programs: "grain," "fodder," "fruit and vegetables," "milk," "meat" and "net income." Interfarm specialization and production sharing are developing consistently. Contracts on creative collaboration have been concluded with many scientific establishments. All this is the result of tireless work and creative questing by members of the bureau and the first secretary of the party raykon. The rayon will without doubt successfully fulfill the tasks envisaged in the Food Program.

One could name quite a few party workers of that kind who know how to arouse people's enthusiasm and create an atmosphere of harmonious collective work. They include Yu.N. Yelchenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kiev party gorkom; Hero of Socialist Labor M.N. Vsevolozhskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Zaporozhye party obkom; Hero of Socialist Labor F.T. Morgun, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Pontava party obkom; Hero of Socialist Labor L.I. Palazhchenko, first secretary of the Volyn party obkom; N.M. Popov, first secretary of the Voroshqlovgrad party gorkom; I.G. Vodeniktov, first secretary of the Zaporozhye party gorkom; YE. A. Polaytaylo, first secretary of the Zolotonoshskiy party raykom in Cherkassy Oblast; I.F, Kalantay, first secretary of the Pervomayskiy party raykom in Kharkov Oblast, and many secretaries of party committees of enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, scientific and academic institutions, and service and cultural sphere organizations. These experienced cadres personify the reliable fusion of experience and innovative quest.

The first half of the 5-year plan is over. The republic's communists and working people are aware that the 1983 results will greatly affect the fulfillment of the 5-year plan target as a whole. Thus party organizations' entire mass-political and organizational work and cadres' efforts are subordinated to the main aim -- mobilizing working people for the successful completion of the present year's targets and for overcoming, or reducing as far as possible, the backlog permitted in certain fields in previous years.

On the whole the tasks set by the 26th Party Congress are being successfully resolved in our republic as throughout the country. There have been positive results in all sectors and continued progress is assured. There has been a tangible increase in the technical standard of production and in output quality. The 5-year plan's social program is being consistently implemented. The plans for commissioning housing and major sociocultural projects are being overfulfilled. The housing conditions of over 3 million people have been improved.

This year, the third year of the 5-year plan, has begun at a good, businesslike pace. In industry, current plans and socialist pledges are being fulfilled for all the most important indicators. Deliveries of equipment for the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline and for the AESes electric power lines and other very important national economic projects are continuing at a preferential rate.

The republic's agro-industrial complex workers are working conscientiously at fulfilling the tasks set by the Food Program. Having completed the overwintering of livestock and the spring fieldwork in a well organized way, rural workers are waging a persistent struggle for this year's harvest. The increase in livestock and poultry productivity has made possible a considerable increase in procurements of livestock products.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's party committees see it as their duty and paramount obligation to resolve the tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums with even greater persistence and to eliminate the existing shortcomings even more energetically.

The decisive role in implementing those tasks belongs to our party cadres -- the heirs and continuers of the remarkable traditions of professional revolutionaries, talented organizers of economic and cultural building renowned scientists, military leaders, production pacemakers and innovators and true leaders of the Leninist school.

Purposeful, persistent work to increase the political maturity and businesslike efficiency of all cadres and to educate them in the spirit of very strict discipline, organization and a high sense of responsibility for the task in hand are the guarantee of success in all areas of communist building.

GAS EXTRACTION, PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION DETAILED

LD180359 Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 18 TASS -- The Soviet Union is successfully continuing its course of increasing the extraction and transportation of natural gas that was started early in the 1980s. Four thousand kilometres of the route have already been tested at the Siberia Western Eruope pipeline. Construction workers have laid in the Carpathian mountains the last ten kilometres of pipes of the world's longest pipeline that stretches for 4451 kilometres.

The export gas pipeline is the fourth transcontinental line to be built in the USSR since the beginning of the current five-year-plan period (1981-1985). Three gas pipelines are already carrying Siberian gas to consumers in the European part of the Soviet Union. The first hundred kilometres of pipes have also been laid along the route of the fifth line stretching from Urengoy to the centre of the country. It will be more than 3,000 kilometres long. During the five-year-plan period it is intended to build in the USSR six gas pipelines from Siberia to the centre of the country. Their aggregate length will exceed 20,000 kilometres. They will bring to consumers the entire increment of gas extraction in Western Siberia -- 200 billion cubic metres of gas.

The Urengoy-centre pipeline will run parallel to the export gas pipeline. As a result, builders will not have to move to new sites or to build new settlements.

If the pace of construction of the trunk gas pipelines from Siberia to the European part of the country remains as high as now, the builders might have enough time to build a seventh transcontinental gas pipeline during the present five-year-plan period.

The discovery in Siberia of the world's biggest Urengoy deposit confronted the USSR with the formidable task of transporting gas to the European part of the country. Thanks to new equipment and good organisation of work Soviet builders have managed to almost double the pace of construction of pipelines as compared to the previous five-year-plan period.

USSR BUILDING NEW SERIES OF DOUBLE-HULL TANKERS

PM121212 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jul 83 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS Report: "Bon Voyage!"]

[Text] Kherson -- A series of tankers with a capacity of almost 30,000 tons each will swell the country's merchant fleet. The parent ship, the "Dmitriy Medvedev," has left the docks of the Kherson 60-letiye Leninskogo Komsomola ship-building production association on its maiden voyage. In contrast to the tankers built here before, those of this series have a double hull. This design considerably reduces pollution of the sea with petroleum products.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL WELL -- A new oil well is being sunk in the Karabag oil field. A brigade of the Ali Bayramli Drilling Administration is working on oil well number 89. To date, they have drilled 2,118 meters of the 3,200-meter long swell. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 2 Jul 83 GF]

SELSKAYA ZHIZN REVIEWS EARLY JULY WEATHER, CROPS

PM180321 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Jul 83 p 1

[Agrometeorologist T. Bogdanova report from the USSR Hydrometeorological Center: "The Weather and Crops"]

[Excerpts] The warm weather, usual for this time of year, has persisted over most of the USSR's European territory in the first 10days of July. It was hot in southern and eastern oblasts in the Ukraine, in the Northern Caucasus and the lower Volga region as well as in the south Urals Region. The daily temperature there has risen to 31-35 degrees. There has been rain in most areas, heavy locally.

Witner wheat and rye have reached full ripeness in Moldavia, the Ukraine (excluding western regions), the northern Caucasus and the Volga Region -- roughly as far as Saratov. Winter crops have been observed in the waxy stage of ripeness in Belorussia, the West Ukraine, the Central Chernozem Region, the southern Central Region and the Volga Region south of Kuybyshev. Winter graincrops are ripening over most of the Non-chernozem Zone. The warm and rainy weather has created favorable conditions for establishing a good crop.

Winter barley has been observed in full ripeness in the southern central and eastern oblasts of the Ukraine and in the northern Caucasus and in the waxy stage in the rest of the Ukraine, southern Belorussia, the Southern Central Chernozem Region and in the Lower Volga Region (south of Saratov). In the more northerly areas of early spring graincrop cultivation, the grain has flowered and ripened and in many areas; barley has entered the milky stage of ripeness.

Corn growth in the area where corn is cultivated for grain is in advance of the average by 10-12 days. In Moldavia and most of the Ukraine and the northern Caucasus Region, corn has sprouted panicles. In the southern Caucasus Region and in the Transcarpathian Region, the corn has begun to blossom and the flowering of corn cobs has been observed among early crops.

Buckwheat has ripened in the southern Central Chernozem Region and the Eastern Ukraine. It has flowered in more northerly regions. In general, rice has entered the leaf formation stage and the late sown rice has tillered. In most regions, the sugar beet roots have continued to grow in the favorable conditions. In many places potatoes are flowering 10-15 days earlier than usual, and in northern oblasts potato inflorescences are continuing to form. In the Ukraine, southern parts of the northern Caucasus and the Volga region sunflowers are continuing to blossom and have begun to form seeds. The inflorescence formation phase has been observed much earlier than usual on the remaining territory.

The weather has remained hot and dry in most arable farming regions of West Siberia and the northern half of Kazakhstan. It has become cooler in Tomsk and Kemerovo Oblasts, in eastern Novosibirsk Oblast and in Altay Kray. It has rained in those regions. Early spring graincrops have grown stalks and early crops have formed ears. In the arable farming regions of eastern Siberia and in the Far East the cold, rainy weather has checked the growth and development of early spring graincrops somewhat (approximately by 1 week).

GRAIN HARVESTING PROGRESS, DEFICIENCIES REVIEWED

PM172056 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Jul 83 First Edition p 1

["Agricultural Review" prepared by "USSR Procurement Ministry specialists": "Grain Grower's First Commandment"]

[Excerpts] Harvesting is in full swing in the fields. Rural workers are seeking to gather and preserve everything that has been grown. Haymaking is going well. Grasses have been cut on 44.1 million hectares. Hay stocks have reached 34.3 million tons, haylage stocks approximately 40 million tons, and silage stocks 6.9 million tons.

Work is also in full swing in the grainfields. Farms in 12 union republics have joined in harvesting. In many zones reaping has begun earlier than usual. The graingrower knows that there is no such thing as an easy harvest. And in a number of places this year the graincrops are stunted, lodged, and sometimes sparse. The weather is unstable. But on the majority of farms the difficulties have been countered with skill and the efficient organization of work.

In the country as a whole, as the USSR Central Statistical Administration reports, graincrops had been cut on 19 million hectares by 11 July and threshed on more than 70 percent of the area. This harvest is the first in the "biography" of the new management organs. The chief responsibility for organizing work all the way from the field to the elevator is placed on the shoulders of the agro-industrial associations.

The timely procurement of grain is a special concern of farmers and their partners. It is rightly called the first commandment. Having harvested the grain, you must see to its dispatch -- above all, to the state granaries. Many rural working people realize how crucial their task is -- to replenish the country's grain resources. However, not all farms have threshing floors adapted for the long storage of produce. But elevators and reception centers, as a rule, have sufficient drying and cleaning equipment.

Harvest work has entered the decisive stage in the Kuban. This year Krasnodar Kray graingrowers plan to sell 4.26 million tons of produce to the state. They have handed over more than 1 million tons of grain. Certain Kuban farms have already coped with the plan for handing over grain.

In some places the tatic chosen has been to hold back grain and not be in a hurry to hand it over. The harvest will suddenly prove less than expected, they say. Rayon and oblast agro-industrial associations are obliged to ensure the timely and uniform delivery of produce to the motherland's granaries. A principled assessment must be made of any manifestation of parochialism. It cannot be tolerated, for example, that many southern Ukrainian farms, having finished harvesting peas, have not sent to the reception centers a single kilogram of the grain of this valuable crop.

An alarming situation concernng the handover of grain has taken shape in certain Crimean rayons. In Dzhankoyskiy Rayon, for example. Here 69,400 tons of grain had been threshed by 5 July. Of this, 56,000 tons remained on the threshing floors. Almost half the farms have not begun selling produce.

Local party and soviet organs do not orient graingrowers toward unconditionally fulfilling the first commandment.

We believe that the stand taken by leaders who violate procurement discipline will be condemned. Measures must also be taken for the more harmonious working of transport. Special attention must be devoted to introducing hourly timetables of transport operations. Considerable experience has been accumulated in various zones of the country. But it is still not being disseminated actively enough. This year these timetables will be used at approximately one-half the grain-reception enterprises. But what hinders their introduction everywhere? Lack of agreement among partners. Agro-industrial associations have not everywhere displayed persistence or achieved harmoniousness and mutual understanding between the farms and the organizations serving them.

NEED TO PROMOTE ZONAL FARMING SYSTEMS STRESSED

PM151109 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jul 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Zonal Farming Systems"]

[Text] Rural workers, along with all Soviet people, unanimously approve the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum decisions and are responding to them with shock labor. They are endeavoring to grow a big harvest in the 3d year of the 5-year plan and to obtain more livestock products. It is particularly necessary, Comrade Yu. V. Andropov said at the plenum, to ensure an uninterrupted supply of high-quality food to the population.

The Food Program is aimed at resolving this problem. Its implementation demands a comprehensive and systematic approach, of which leading agrotechniques and scientifically based zonal farming are the most important components. A sensible utilization of natural and labor resources by each republic and the rational unionwide pooling of that potential are what will produce the greatest benefit.

Zonal systems have now been elaborated in all regions. They define how land can be better utilized and more reliably protected against erosion and indicate which crop rotations, crops and varieties are to be chosen in preference to others. It is the duty of party, Soviet and economic organs everywhere to strive for a creative attitude to agrotechniques, to adapt work in the countryside better to the adversities of the climate, and to obtain good harvests.

In this respect the example of graingrowers in Kazakhstan is instructive. They have achieved stable grain outputs by extensively assimilating arable systems. Their experience is well known. Moldboardless tilling, the most suitable method for the arid zone, is widely used there. Coordinated interconnection of agricultural practices helps to avoid breaking up the ground and to accumulate sufficient moisture. This system is being applied in Siberia, the Urals and other regions, taking local conditions into account. In the country as a whole, this system is being used on more than 40 million hectares. Zonal agrotechniques are being introduced in Omsk, Poltava, Ivanovo and other oblasts.

To ensure the development of the farming sector, every specialist and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leader must have a clear program based on a farming system appropriate to his region. However, proper attention is still not being paid to this everywhere. Zonal systems are being introduced slowly, and the old way of farming prevails. One of the reasons for this is the inertia in the thinking of some agricultural leaders and specialists, and their unwillingness to burden themselves with a concern for improving agrotechniques. For instance, on farms in Nikolayev Oblast and other oblasts in southern Ukraine, the machine-labor radio and deliveries of fertilizers have increased considerably in recent years. But the yields per hectare are not going up, and in some places they have even declined.

Scientists are called on to greatly assist fieldworkers. The CPSU Central Committee June Plenum noted that tens of thousands of hard-working people devoted to the party and the people work in our science. That is a great force. Unfortunately, certain agricultural research institutes display a lack of activeness. In some places recommendations regarding arable systems have still not been publicized and handed over to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Sometimes the documents contain no tangible advice as to how yields could be considerably increased. The Nonchernozem Zone Central Regions Agricultural Research Institute deserves to be severely censured by fieldworkers. The staff of that institute is failing to study the essence of the problem in depth, and they underrate the experience in subsurface tilling already accumulated in the region. The attitude of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and VASKHNIL [the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences] to cases like this is not sufficiently exacting. The scientists' responsibility for the introduction of new methods must be decisively enhanced.

Erosion is still causing considerable damage to the land. Zonal systems everywhere must pursue soil protection. However, in a number of places soil continues to be tilled without natural factors being taken into account. For this reason fields, particularly in the Central Chernozem Region, are subject to damage. Agricultural organs, scientists and specialists must adopt resolute measures to restore lost fertility and persistently disseminate tried and tested methods and techniques.

It is equally important to complete the assimilation of crop rotation systems within a year or two. This has already been accomplished on more than 80 percent of plantations. But it is a fact that the prescribed succession of crops is not infrequently violated. The Kirghiz SSR and Novgorod Oblast farms have relaxed their attention to crop rotation. By no means on all farms has the optimum fallow area been ensured, and the tending of these fields is badly organized. So this year, too, a number of kokhozes and sovkhozes are lagging in tending them and applying fertilizers to them. Selection workers have so far produced insufficient quantities of high-yield varieties able to withstand unfavorable weather conditions.

A serious obstacle in the path of the introduction of zonal systems remains the shortage of anti-erosion implements. Farms continue to experience a shortage of moldboardless plows, spike harrows, stubble seeders and other machinery. There is extremely little equipment for areas subject to water erosion. Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building enterprises must regard the increased output of machinery, taking zonal requirements into account, as a most important condition for the implementation of the Food Program.

The organizational and economic measures envisaged by the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum are now beginning to take full effect, and realistic opportunities to enhance the efficiency of agricultural production and its leading sector -- arable farming -- are being created. Oblast and rayon agro-industrial associations must spearhead work on the rational utilization of land and the introduction of zonal systems. The role and responsibility of agronomists -- the direct organizers of the struggle for a high standard of arable farming -- is now increasing considerably.

The assimilation of farming systems is an important concern of rural party organizations. They are called on to ensure that every fieldworker feels personal responsibility for increasing land fertility and introducing new, leading methods. The harvest is now getting underway. It is important to gather in everything that the field, orchard and vegetable plot have produced, to preserve it in full, and to get it to the consumer. This will make it possible to resolve successfully the tasks set the rural workers by the 26th CPSU Congress and the Food Program and to attain the 11th 5-Year Plan targets for the production and sale of output to the state.

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF COSMONAUTS RECOUNTED

Studies, Health Checks

LD151110 Moscow TASS in English 1029 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow July 15 TASS -- A TASS special correspondent reports from the mission control centre: Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Aleksandrov are continuing their work aboard the orbiting complex "Salyut-7" -- "Soyut T-9" -- "Cosmos-1443".

On Thursday they completed the first series of comprehensive studies of earth's surface, which are geared to meet national economic and scientific interests. The work included photographing vast tracts of Soviet territory in middle and southern latitudes. Along with photographic equipment, the studies involved the use of the Bulgarian instrument "Spektr-15" and the spectrometer MKS-M developed by specialists of the German Democratic Republic.

The speacemen prepared a small-size gamma-telescope, "Yelena", for operation and began to use it to obtain information about gamma-radiation and charged particles in terrestrial space.

Parallel with conducting their first studies and experiments, the cosmonauts are continuing to unload "Cosmos-1443" and installing the new instruments and equipment brought from earth in place.

Today the crew are doing scheduled maintenance work, checking individual on-board systems, and preparing scientific instruments for planned experiments. Physical exercises are also indispensable part of their daily routine aloft.

Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Aleksandrov went through a thorough medical check-up which was needed to allow an objective assessment of the state of their health. The procedure included, in particular, a study of the bioelectrical activity of the heart when a cosmonaut is at rest and of the cadrio-vascular system's reaction to simulated hydrostatic pressure. According to the examination's findings, both cosmonauts are in good health and feel well.

The flight of the scientific research complex is proceeding normally.

Photographic Observations

LD172220 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2000 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The third week of work in orbit is ending for Vladimir Lyakhov and Aleksandr Aleksandrov. During this time the cosmonauts have taken the station out of mothballs and begun unloading the equipment. They have carried out more than 30 scientific experiments and a series of prophylactic operations. Their main attention has been devoted to observations of the earth from space. The team has taken pictures of the broad regions in the Caspian sea, the Volga region, the Urals and the BAM zone.

Within the framework of the Interkosmos program, they have taken pictures of the territory of Mongolia. The information arriving from space is today helping geologists, fishermen, corngrowers and foresters, and specialists in many other professions in their work.

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July 19, 1983